

5

AKIRA

KATSUHIRO OTOMO

アキラ



至
今

translation and english-language adaptation

**YOKO UMEZAWA, JO DUFFY, STUDIO PROTEUS,
and DARK HORSE COMICS**

graphics adaptation and sound-effects lettering

**DAVID SCHMIT for DIGIBOX
and EDITIONS GLENAT**

digital lettering and additional graphics adaptation

**DIGITAL CHAMELEON
and DARK HORSE COMICS**

publisher

MIKE RICHARDSON

original series editor

KOICHI YURI

editor

CHRIS WARNER

consulting editors

TOREN SMITH and DANA LEWIS for STUDIO PROTEUS

collection designer

LIA RIBACCHI

art director

MARK COX



AKIRA BOOK FIVE

© 2001 MASH+ROOM Co. Ltd. Translation and English-language adaptation © 1992, 1993, 2001 MASH+ROOM Co. Ltd. and Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo. Graphics adaptation © 2000 Editions Glenat. All other material © 2001 Dark Horse Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. Publication rights arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo. Originally published in Japan in 1986 - 1989 in Young Magazine by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo. No portion of this publication may be reproduced, in any form or by any means, without the express written permission of the copyright holders. Names, characters, and incidents appearing in this publication, the names of the author, the images, and the title are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons (living or dead), events, incidents, or locales, without specific intent, is coincidental. Dark Horse Comics® and the Dark Horse logo are trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc., registered in various categories and countries. All rights reserved.

The artwork of this volume has been produced as a mirror-image of the original Japanese edition to conform to English-language standards.

Published by Dark Horse Comics, Inc., 10956 S.E. Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222 • www.darkhorse.com

To find a comic shop in your area, call the Comic Shop Locator Service toll-free at 1-888-266-4226

First edition: December 2001 • ISBN: 1-56971-327-0

Printed in Canada • 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

AKIRA

KATSUHIRO OTOMO

ア
ニ
メ
リ
ア

**BOOK
FIVE**



DARK HORSE COMICS®

THE STORY SO FAR

21st century Neo-Tokyo stands on the ashes of Tokyo, destroyed four decades earlier by the mind of a child — the mind of Akira. Subject of a military project gone horribly wrong, Akira was placed in cryogenic hibernation after the holocaust until his infinite powers could be harnessed. The other survivors of "The Project," formidable psychics withering away in children's bodies, know that one day Akira will awaken.

Enter Tetsuo, an angry young member of a motorcycle gang led by his friend Kaneda. A violent accident sets off within Tetsuo dormant psychokinetic abilities that grow rapidly, as do a raging headache and a virulent madness. Tetsuo soon explodes in a psychic killing spree against friend and foe, turning Kaneda from blood-brother to mortal enemy. Tetsuo has not gone unnoticed by The Project's leader, the mysterious Colonel, who uses a super-drug to quell Tetsuo's agony while stimulating his powers and bringing Tetsuo under his thrall. But Tetsuo soon grows beyond the control of the Colonel and his psychics — Takashi, Masaru, and Kyoko — and Tetsuo's discovery of Akira's existence foments within him the urge to confront the child super-being.

A vengeful Kaneda allies with a resistance group, including the beautiful Kei and her partner Ryu, in an attempt to kill Tetsuo and infiltrate the secret subterranean lab that houses the sleeping Akira. They enter the facility and find Tetsuo in combat with the Colonel's security forces. Tetsuo's psychic vibrations stir Akira, and the child emerges from his frozen prison. Tetsuo helps the bewildered child to the surface, but the frantic Colonel orders the gigantic laser cannon of the military satellite SOL to fire on Tetsuo and Akira. Tetsuo's arm is shredded, and the two become separated in the mayhem. Tetsuo disappears, but Kaneda and Kei find Akira and take him to safety.

A state of emergency blankets Neo-Tokyo as the population heads for shelter; the streets quarantined by military patrols and Caretaker robot sentries. Kaneda and Kei — along with Chiyoko, a powerful woman of the resistance — bring Akira to a yacht for safekeeping, but the duplicitous resistance leader, Nezu, takes Akira to use as a weapon against the government and orders the three killed. Chiyoko fights their

way to freedom, and they invade Nezu's home and recapture Akira. The Colonel's forces eventually corner Akira, who for the first time in decades sees Masaru, Kyoko, and Takashi. The reunion is cut short by Nezu, who is trying to kill Akira rather than let him fall into government hands, shoots Takashi, whose death triggers Akira's power. A titanic psychic wave surges through Neo-Tokyo, and the citizenry struggle desperately to survive the cataclysm. As the destruction subsides, Akira sits alone at ground zero. A lone figure approaches him through the wreckage. It is Tetsuo!

From the flooded ruins rises the Great Tokyo Empire, a small army of crazed zealots focused around Akira's miracles but under the malefic control of Tetsuo. The Empire seals itself off from the world, but undercover agents from the outside arrive to assess the threat. The Empire plans to neutralize its most immediate enemies, the child psychics and Lady Miyako — an enigmatic religious figure and Project survivor — whose temple is a haven for refugees. Tetsuo begins feeding the super-drug to "volunteers." Most die, but a handful develop the Power and become Empire shock troops. The infiltrators are caught and executed by the new psychics, but one operative, Yamada, evades capture.

Kei, Chiyoko, and Ryu have survived along with Masaru and Kyoko, but Kaneda is nowhere to be found, assumed lost in the holocaust. Deprived of the super-drug, Masaru and Kyoko are incapacitated, and Chiyoko and Kei set out to enlist the aid of Miyako, who gives them the drug and instructs them to return with Masaru and Kyoko. Meanwhile, Ryu observes Yamada's escape and leaves to investigate. He finds the agent and offers his assistance to Yamada, who makes a beeline for Akira's stronghold. With Ryu gone, Empire spies kidnap Masaru and Kyoko. Chiyoko and Kei return to find the children missing, and the two set off after their charges. They catch up to the Empire's soldiers and free Masaru, but Kyoko's captors escape. Kei sets off for the Temple with Masaru while Chiyoko, wounded in battle, goes after Kyoko.

Tetsuo also gives the drug to young women for his pleasure and amusement. They die in agony, all but Kaori, who palms the drug. She becomes Tetsuo's companion and Akira's nanny. Tetsuo has a series of confusing visions, and he realizes his thoughts are being manipulated by Akira. Tetsuo confronts the child, who draws Tetsuo into his mind and teleports him back to his chambers. Tetsuo withdraws in terror, having seen too far into the thoughts of the psychic

colossus. He eventually comes to his senses and decides that Miyako might be of some use to him. He takes more drugs, kicking his power to new heights, and transports across space to Miyako's chamber. Miyako gives him the history of the Project and the revelation that the drug is designed to inhibit his psychic development. Only by going cold turkey will he become all he can — perhaps even a match for Akira. He leaves to contemplate his future.

Chiyoko recaptures Kyoko but is trapped and further injured after narrowly escaping one of Tetsuo's newly bred psychics. Facing almost certain capture, the two are rescued by the Colonel, who takes them back to a still-intact facility manned by a scientist stricken with nicotine withdrawal. Miyako reveals that Masaru is in Miyako's temple, and the Colonel places her inside a Caretaker robot and begins the arduous journey through the rubble to the temple. He takes with him a special miniature targeting device for the super-laser of SOL.

Tetsuo begins his agonizing withdrawal. Tetsuo's lieutenant, upon discovering that Masaru has reached safety in Miyako's shrine, is unable to get through to his anguished master and takes matters into his own hands by organizing an assault on the temple. Many innocent refugees and monks are killed, but the attack is eventually repelled, partially by the psychic skills of the temple's priests and finally by Kei taking Tetsuo's lieutenant hostage. She eventually lets him go, but he vows to return.

Tetsuo appears to Ryu and Yamada and tells them that he has seen the American fleet not far from shore, ready to attack, but unwilling to get too close due to the power of Akira. Yamada tries to shoot Tetsuo, who easily stops him, and then he disappears as quickly as he appeared.

As the Colonel nears the Temple, a second attack by the Empire begins. Cornered, the Colonel prepared to unleash the power of SOL. Kei, Masaru, Miyako, and her monks retreat to the citadel of the temple as a final stronghold. At that moment, Tetsuo appears, half-mad with pain, demanding drugs from Miyako. As the superlaser of SOL ignites, Tetsuo rises howling into the air, unleashing his power and tossing wrecked skyscrapers about like so many toys. But Tetsuo goes on, transcending time and space, reliving his birth, and eventually arriving at... Akira. Tetsuo falls to his knees before his master.

And in the vast wasteland of ruined Neo-Tokyo, Kaneda suddenly appears...



KANEDA



TETSUO



KEI



RYU



THE COLONEL



Miyako



KYOKO



TETSUO'S AIDE



CHIYOKO



LADY MIYAKO



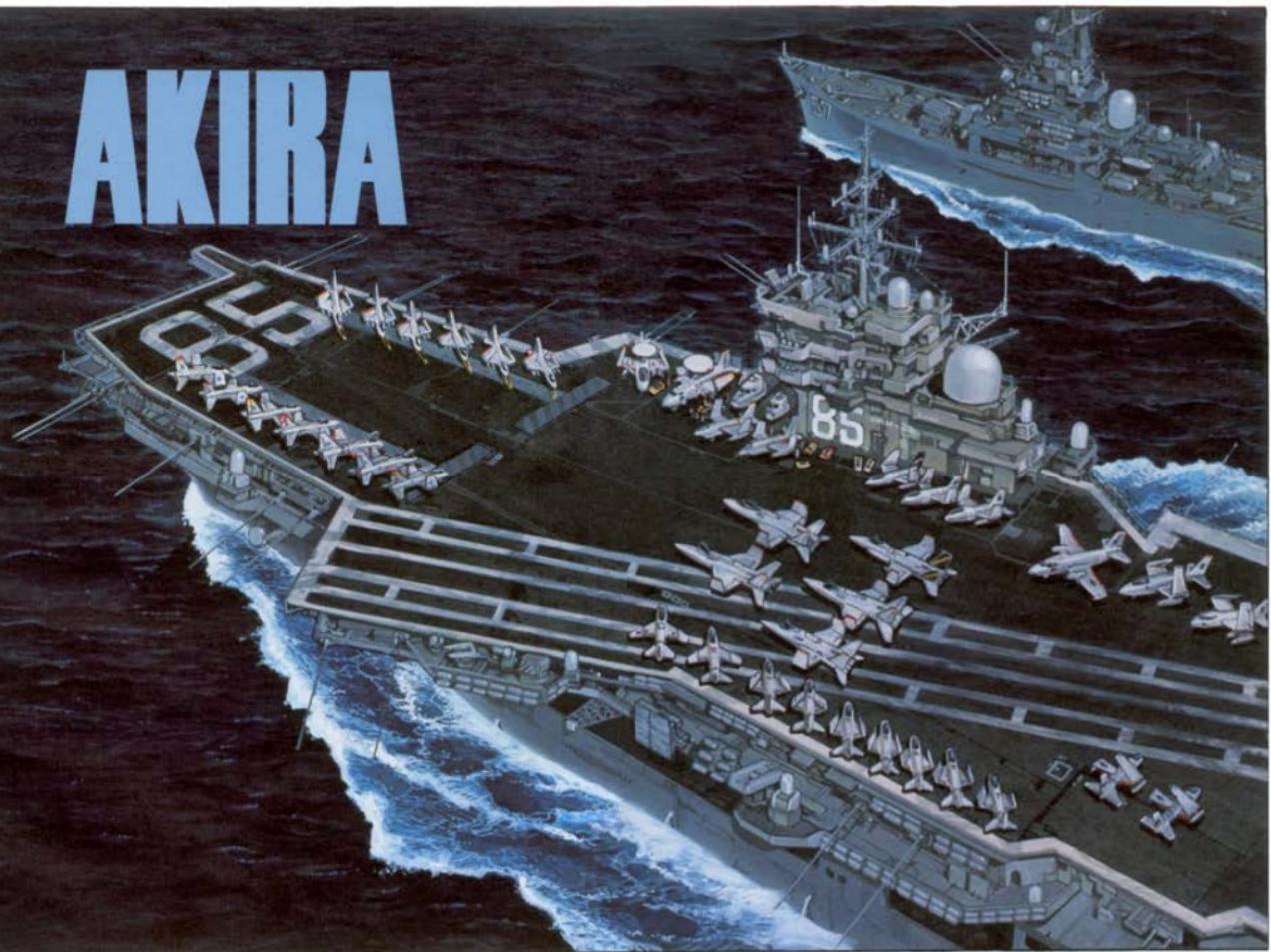
KAORI



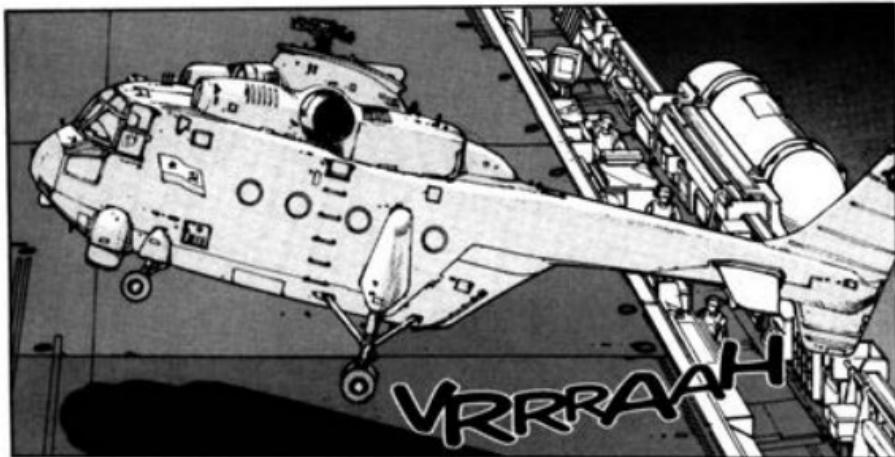
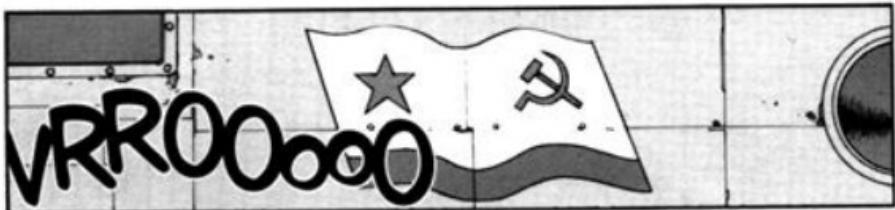
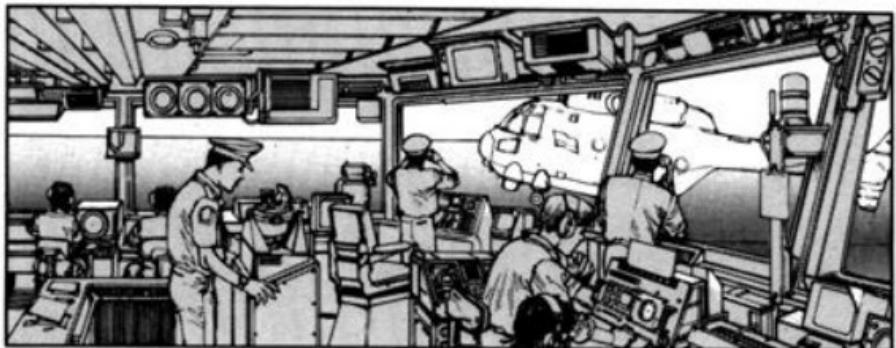
AKIRA

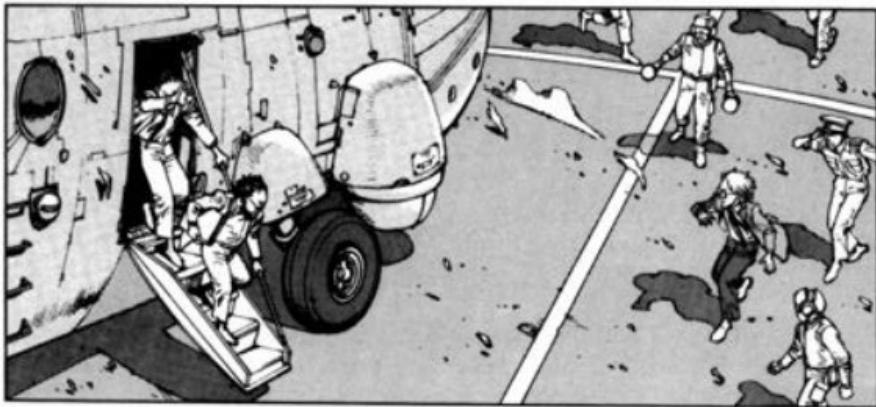


AKIRA









WE MUST BE CAREFUL.
EVASIVE EXPLANATIONS
COULD HAVE NEGATIVE
EFFECTS...CAUSE
A PANIC.

IF WE MISHANDLE
THIS, WE RUN THE RISK
OF BEING CASTIGATED
AS TRAITORS...
OR MADMEN.

I CAN IMAGINE
HOW GALILEO
MUST HAVE
FELT.

YOUR WORDS ARE LESS THAN
COMFORTING. IF WE ONLY
HAD MORE TIME...

IF THE MILITARY HAD
LISTENED TO US IN
THE FIRST PLACE, WE
WOULDN'T BE IN
THIS POSITION.

I KNOW
WHAT YOU
MEAN.

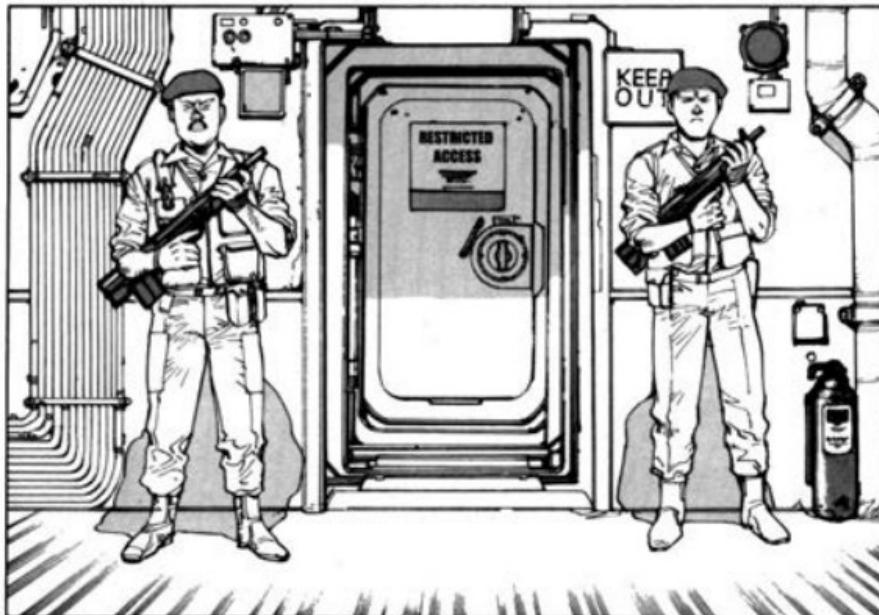
KEEP
OUT

THE IMPORTANT THING
IS THAT YOU'RE HERE
NOW. THANK GOD
YOU'RE WITH US...

...AND THAT
WE STILL HAVE
TIME BEFORE THE
BUTTON IS
PUSHED!

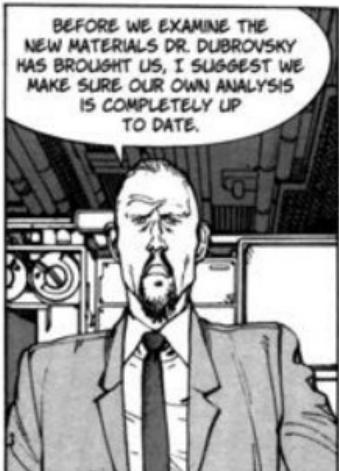






















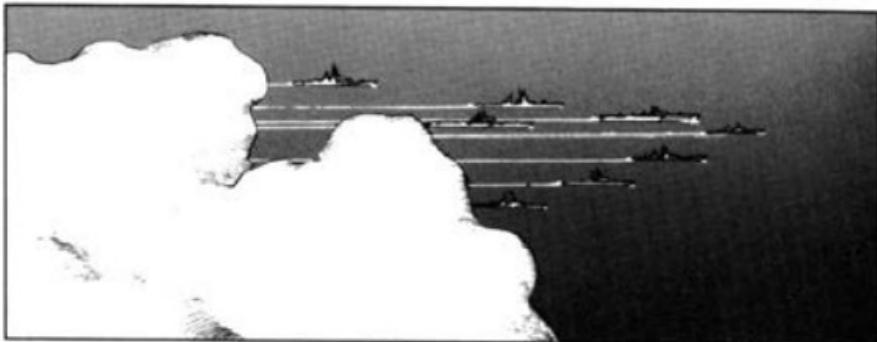


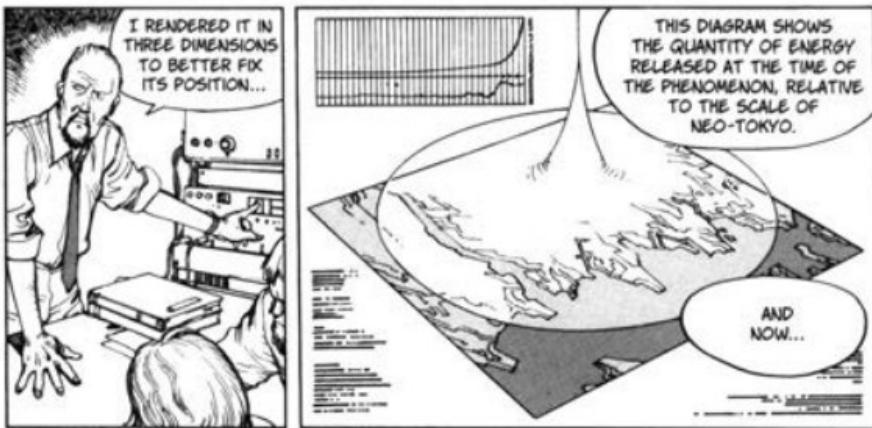


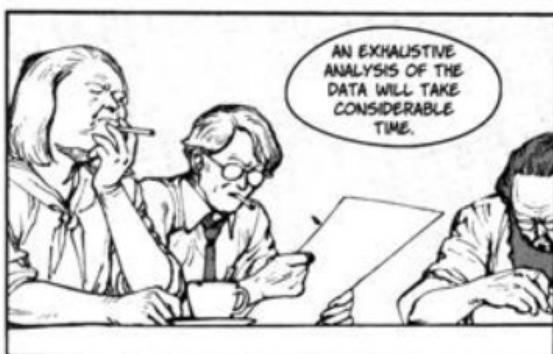
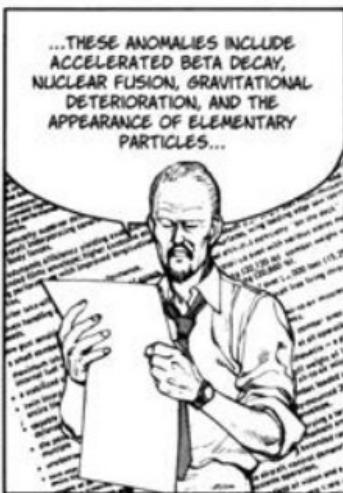


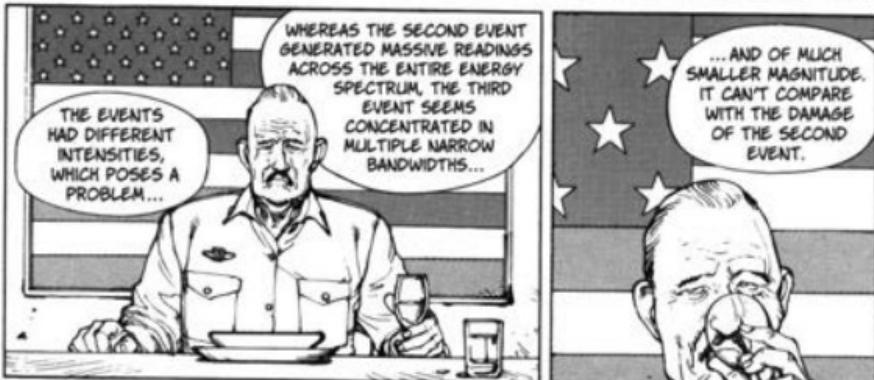




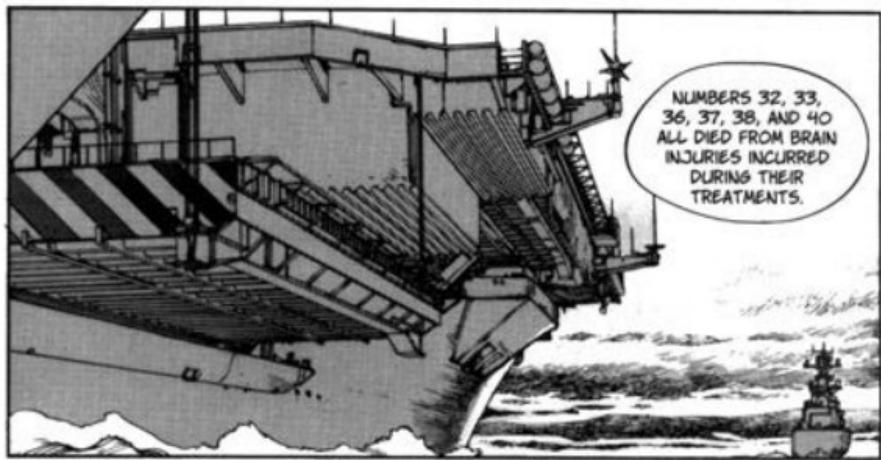












NUMBERS 32, 33,
36, 37, 38, AND 40
ALL DIED FROM BRAIN
INJURIES INCURRED
DURING THEIR TREATMENTS.



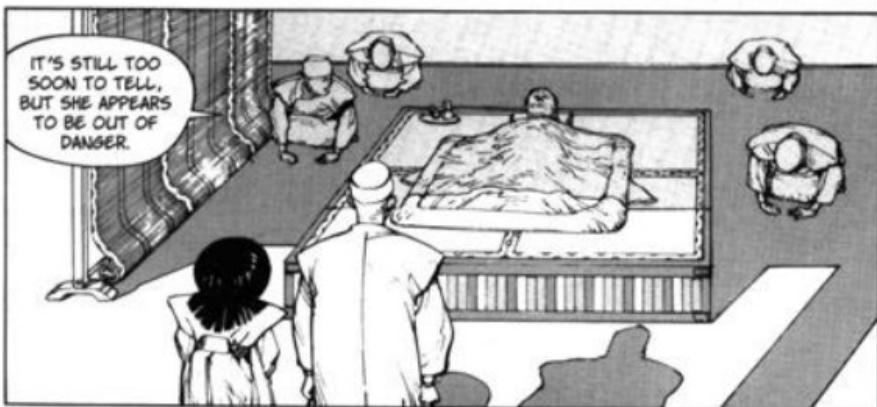
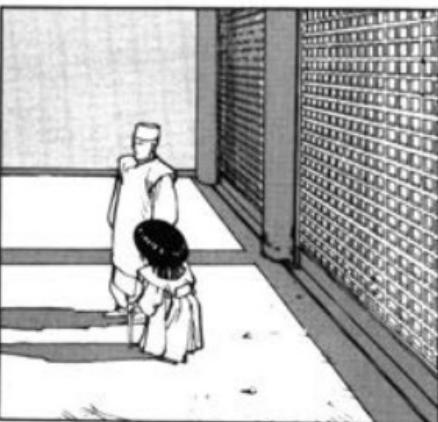
...NUMBERS 34, 35,
AND 39 WERE STILL IN
THE SECRET LAB AT THE
TIME OF THE SECOND
PHENOMENON. WITH
THE COLLAPSE OF
NEO-TOKYO, THEY ARE
LISTED AS MISSING.



NUMBER
41 IS REPORTED
TO HAVE ESCAPED
ON APRIL 16,
2030...

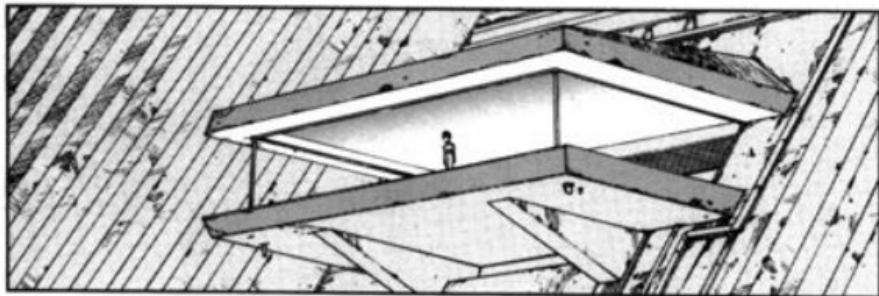


...THE SAME DAY THE
SOL LASER CANNON WAS
FIRED AT THE COMPLEX
WHERE AKIRA WAS
BEING HELD.











KEI...MAY
I ASK YOU A
QUESTION?

GO AHEAD,
COLONEL.

WHAT KEEPS
YOU IN NEO-
TOKYO?

I SEE...
ME, I HAVE
A JOB TO FINISH.
NO MATTER WHAT
THE COST.

MY FRIENDS
ARE HERE...AND
ONE OF THEM MAY BE
DYING OUT THERE.
THAT'S ALL.

AND FOR
THAT, I NEED
SO...











NOT EVERYONE
COMES EMPTY-HANDED.
SOME BRING FOOD,
MEDICINE... THERE'S
EVEN A MARKET NOW
WITH STORES...

THERE'S A LOT
OF SERIOUS BARTER
AND TRADING... PLENTY
OF VULTURES
THERE...



SO HOW WE
GONNA--











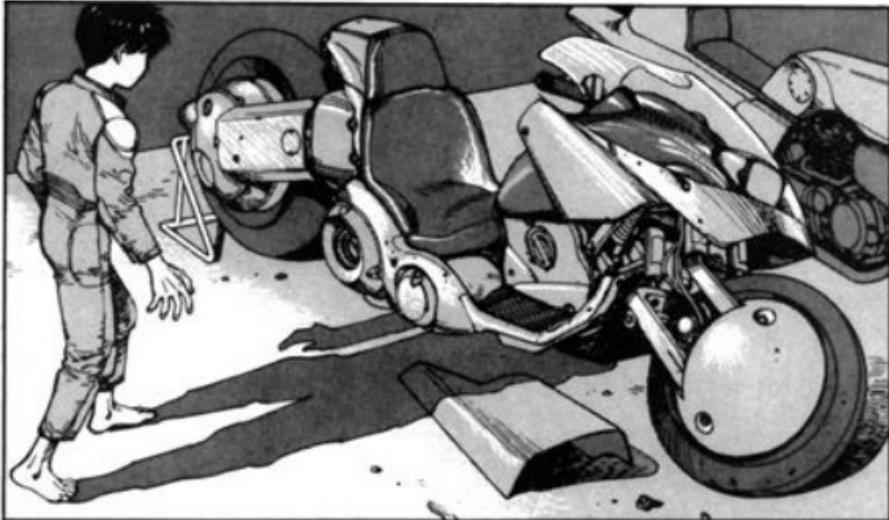


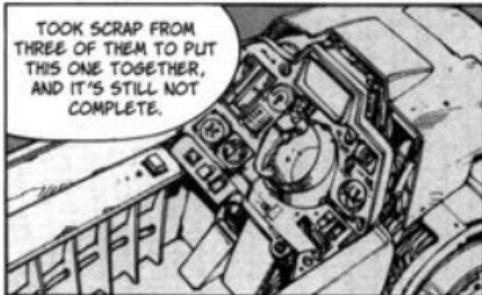
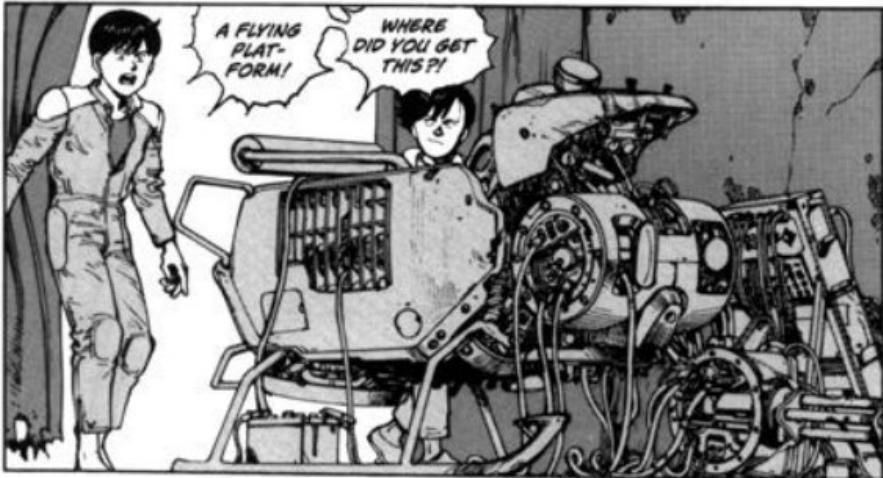


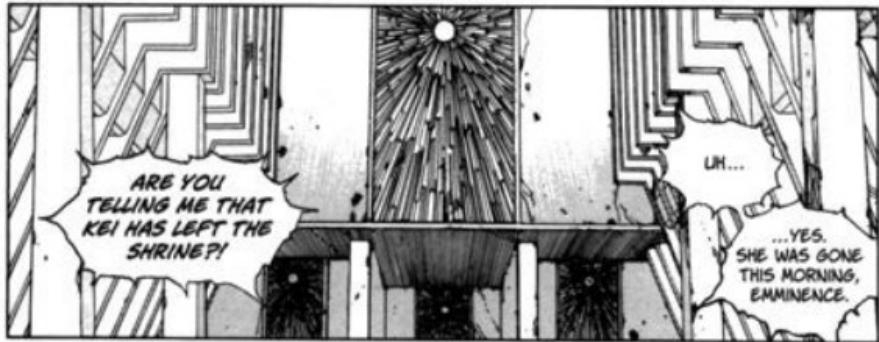




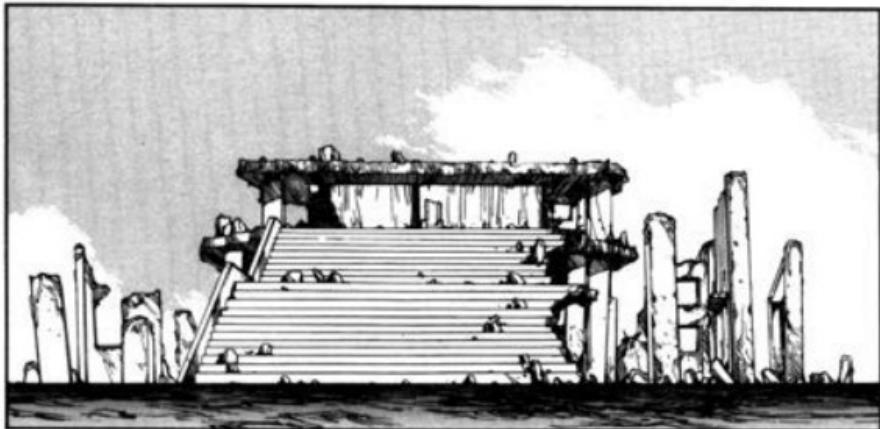
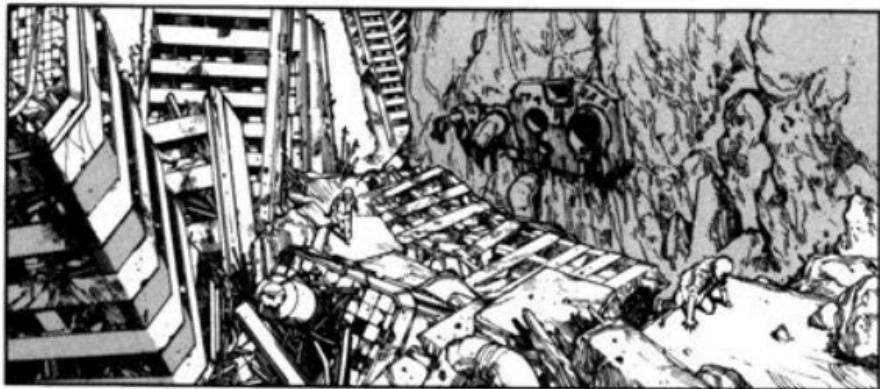


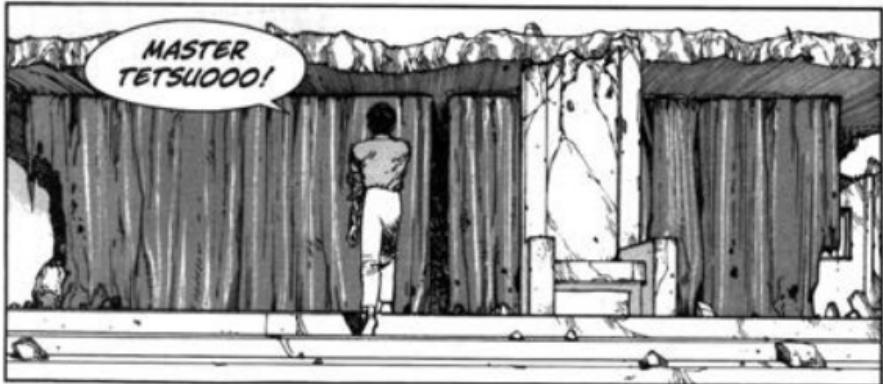




















I AIN'T TAKIN'
THIS SHIT! YOU
TOLD ME TO COME,
I CAME! IT AIN'T
MY FAULT YOU
CAN'T KEEP UP
WITH ME!

HUH?
THANK YOU
FOR COMING...YOU
ARE WELCOME
HERE.

LADY
MIYAKO!

YOU MAY
LEAVE US
NOW.

SO, WHAT'S UP,
GRANNY? WHAT BROUGHT
YOU OUT OF YOUR
HOLE?

MY DEMAND
IS SIMPLE. I WANT
YOU TO BRING
KEI BACK
TO ME.

I DON'T TAKE
ORDERS FROM ANY-
BODY! IF I FIND
HER, IT WON'T BE
FOR YOU!

...THAT ALL OUR
DESTINIES DEPEND
ON THIS GIRL.
I ASK...

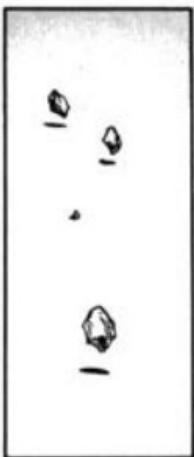
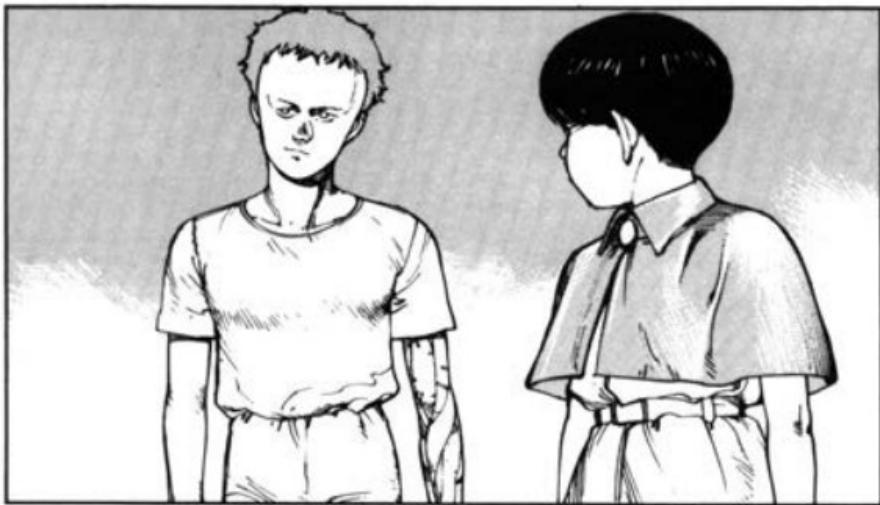
...I BEG OF
YOU TO BRING
HER BACK. SHE IS
AS PRECIOUS TO
ME AS MY OWN
DAUGHTER.

OF COURSE...
BUT YOU MUST
KNOW...

WE ALL
DEPEND ON
HER...?!



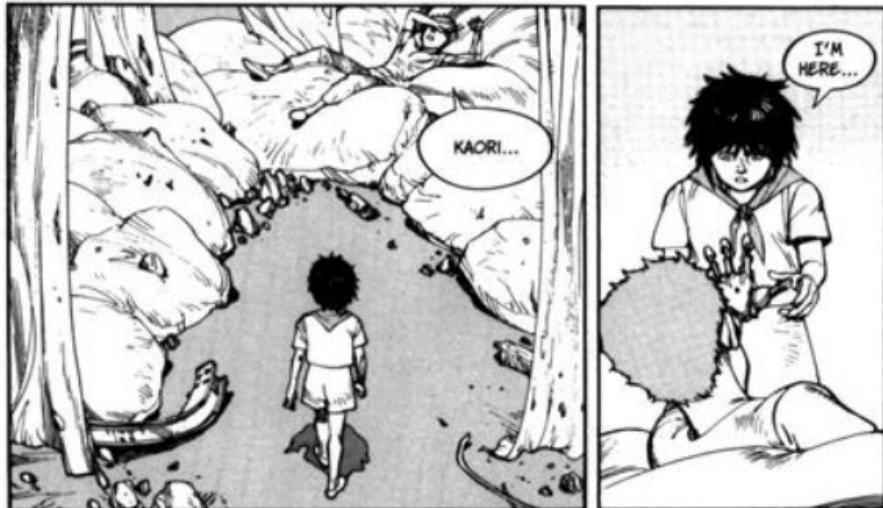


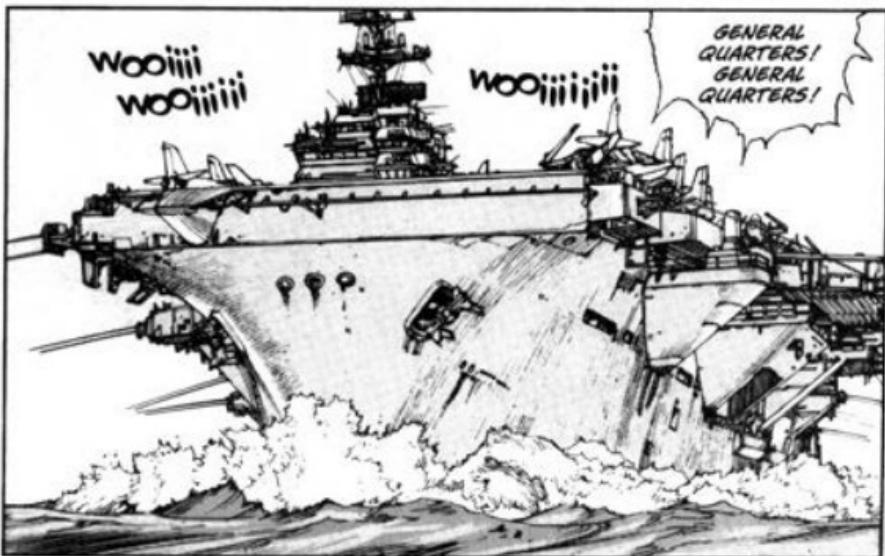


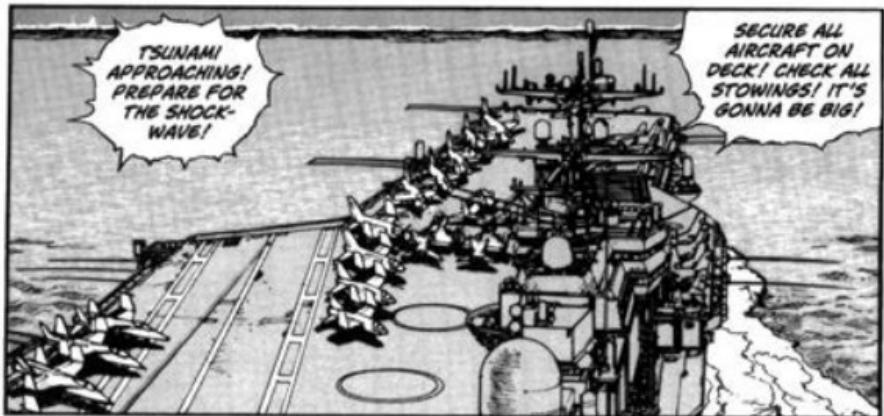
WITHOUT TELLING YOU
OR LORD AKIRA, I CALLED
TOGETHER OUR ARMY AND LED
IT AGAINST MIYAKO AND
HER FOLLOWERS...

...BUT MANY
REFUGEES CAME
TO HER AID!

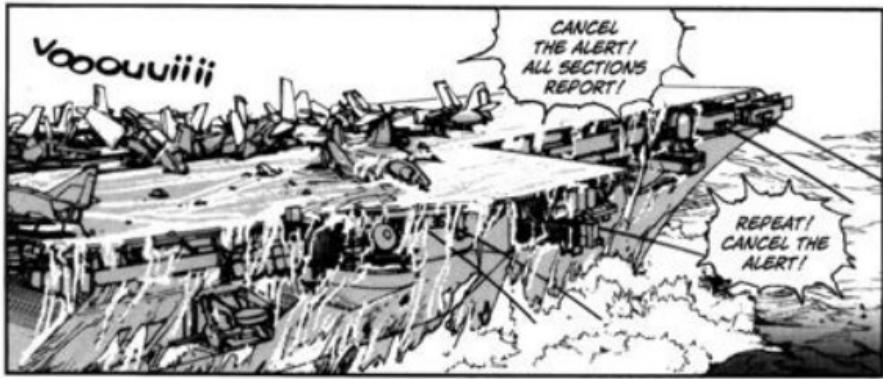
FINALLY, WE HAD TO PULL
OUT! SOME OF HER PRIESTS
HAVE THE POWER! WE DIDN'T
HAVE ENOUGH! PLEASE, MASTER
TETSUO! YOU'VE GOT
TO HELP US!





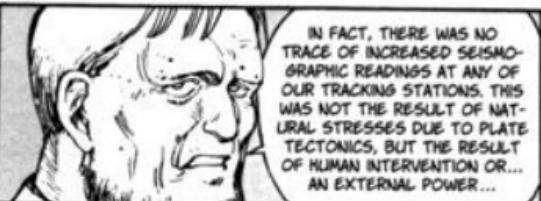
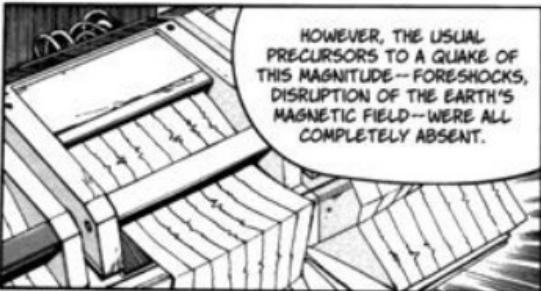






THE EPICENTER WAS 300 KILOMETERS BELOW NEO-TOKYO'S SURFACE. SHOCKWAVES MEASURE 8.5 ON THE RICHTER SCALE--A MAMMOTH QUAKE!

HOWEVER, THE USUAL PRECURSORS TO A QUAKE OF THIS MAGNITUDE--FORESHOCKS, DISRUPTION OF THE EARTH'S MAGNETIC FIELD--WERE ALL COMPLETELY ABSENT.





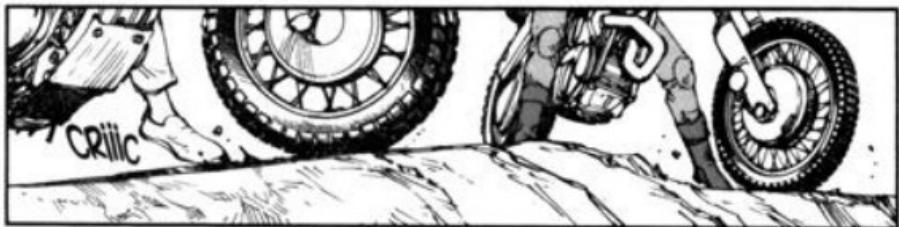




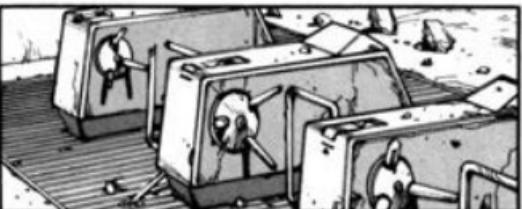
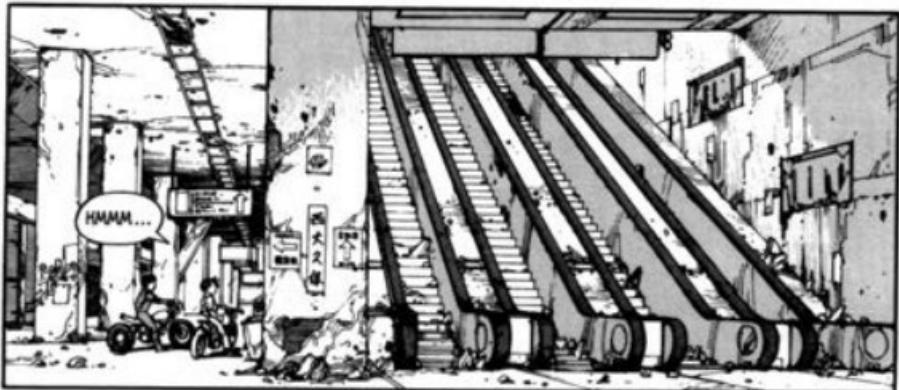


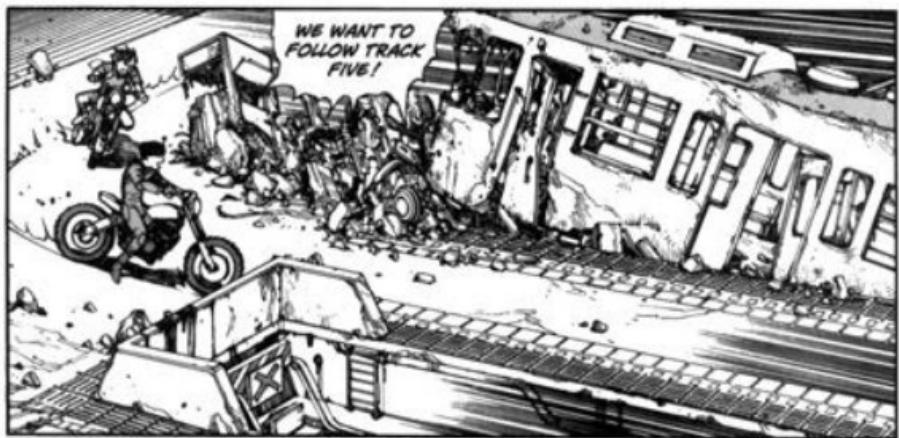












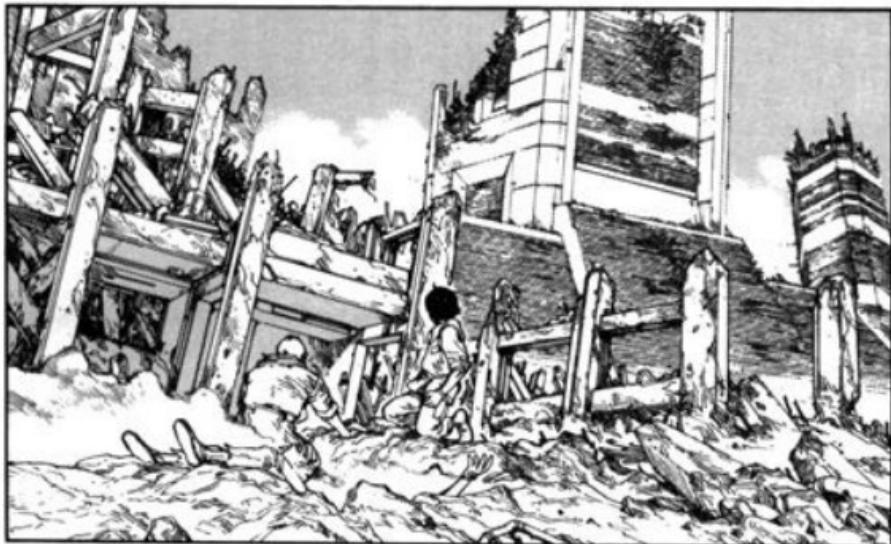




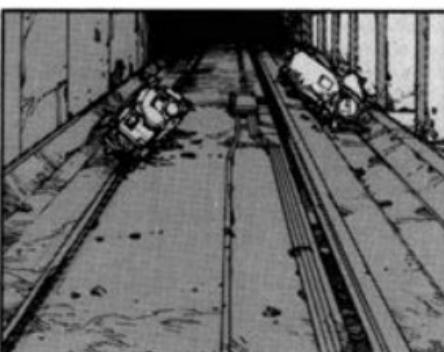


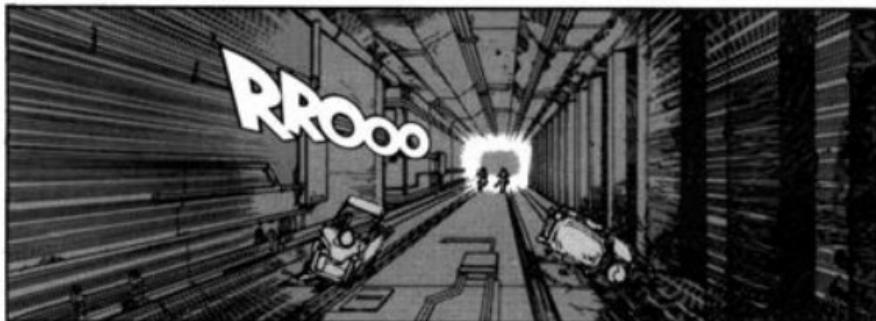




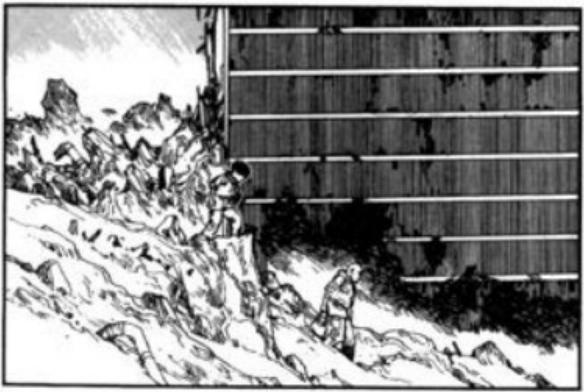












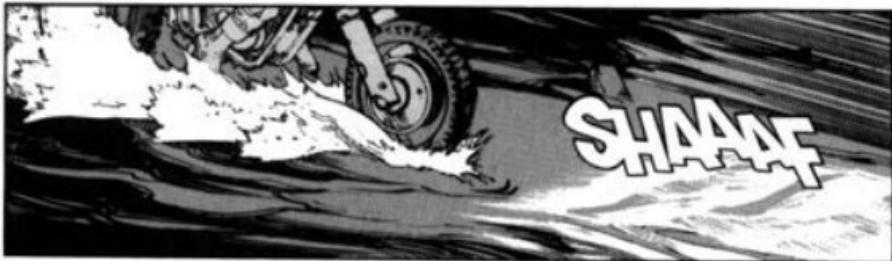












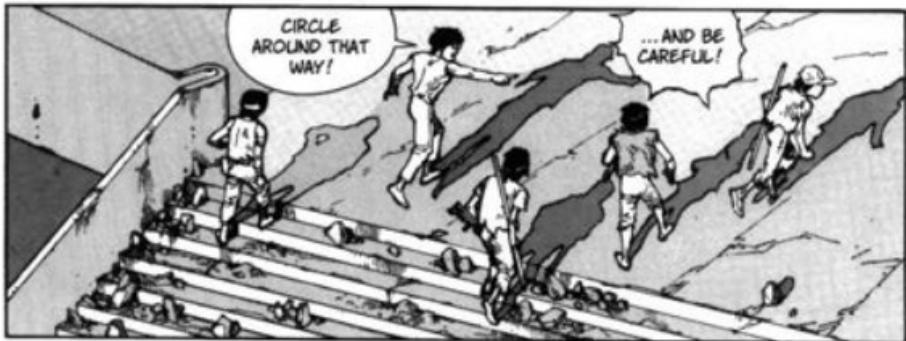


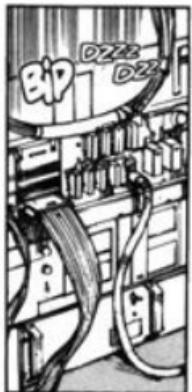














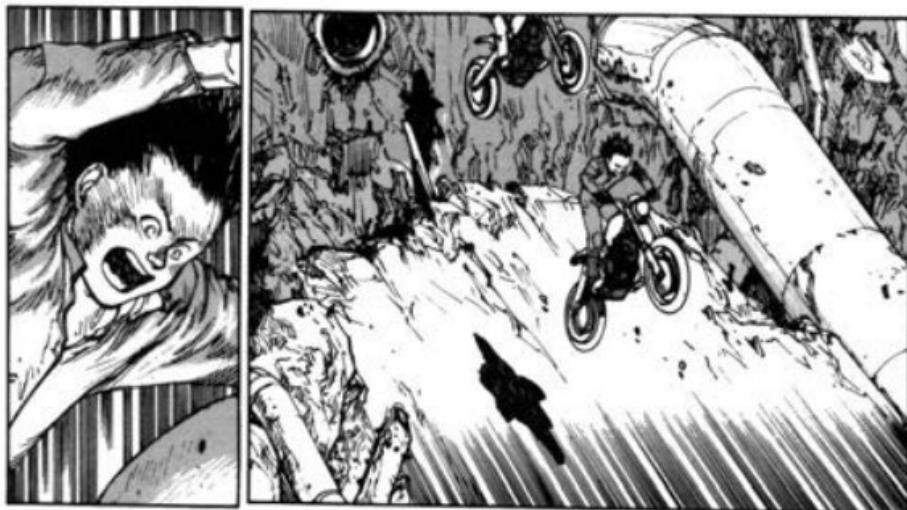










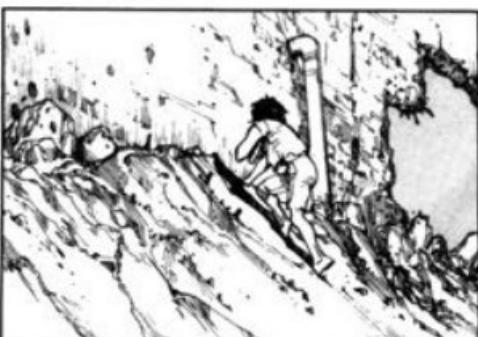




YOU WANT TO
USE THE CARETAKER
TO TAKE YOUR FRIEND
TO THE TEMPLE?













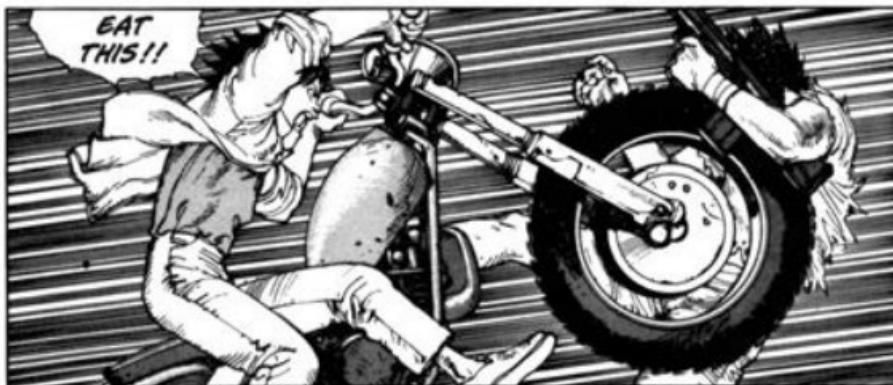














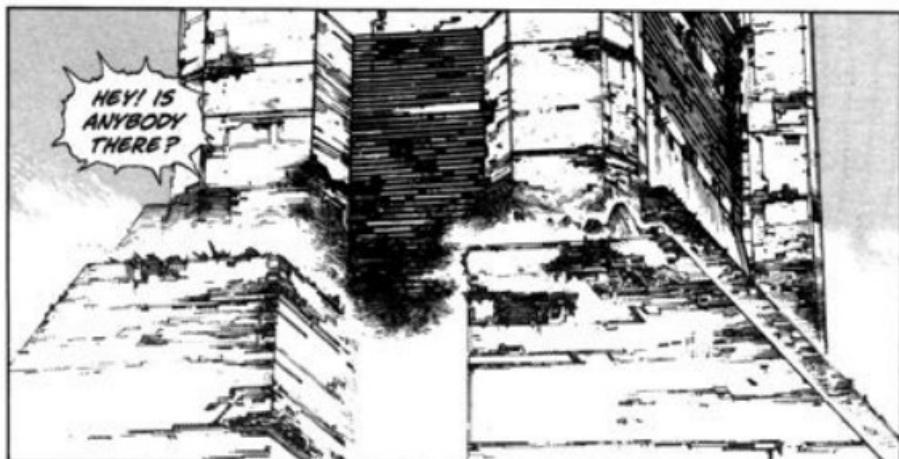


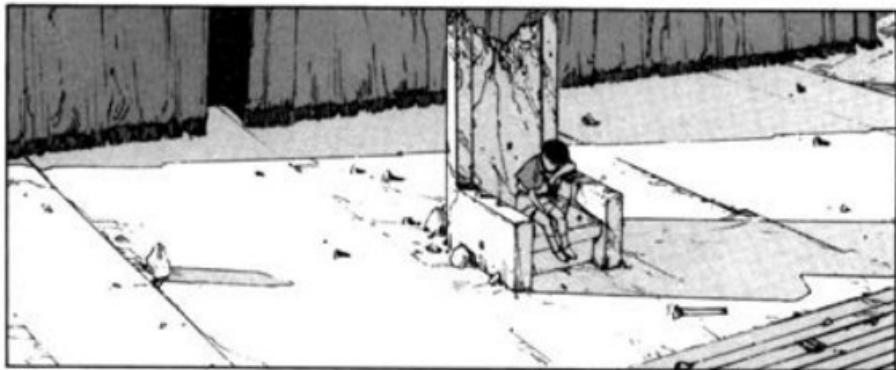
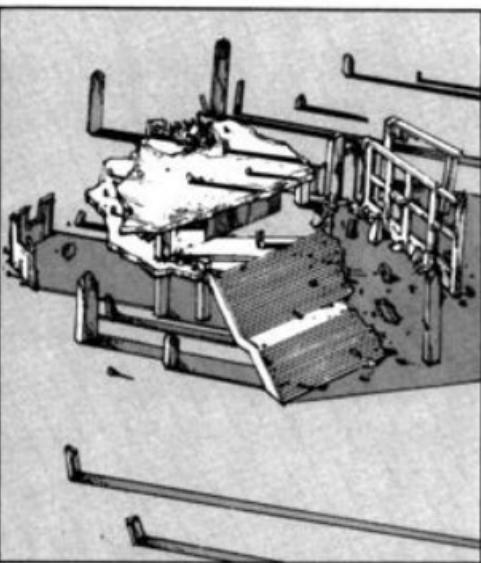


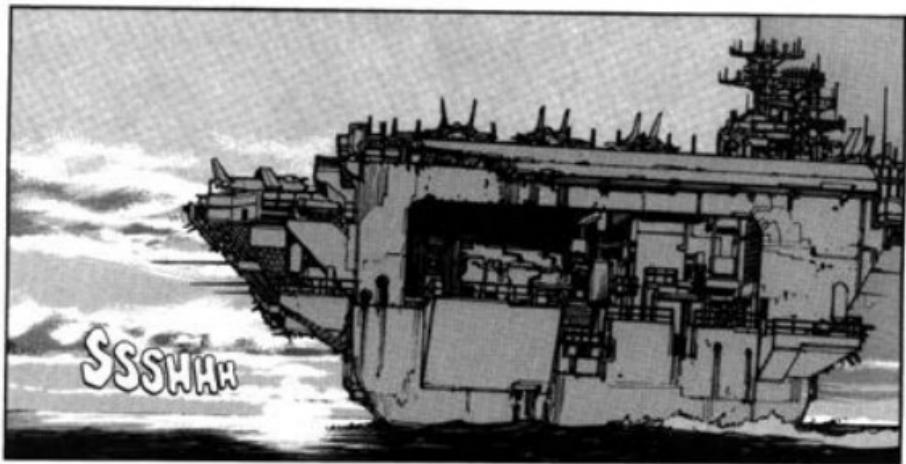
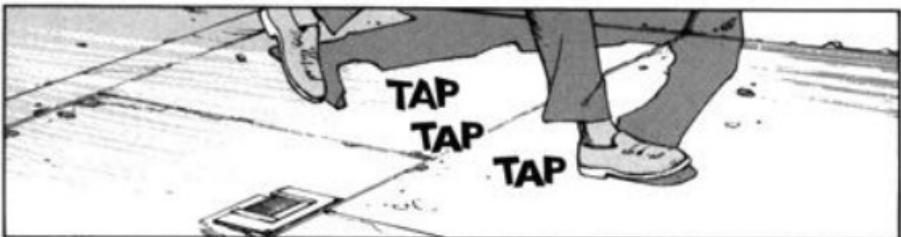


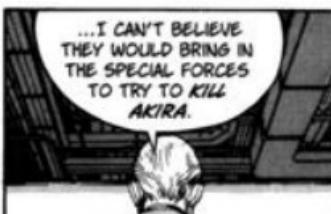






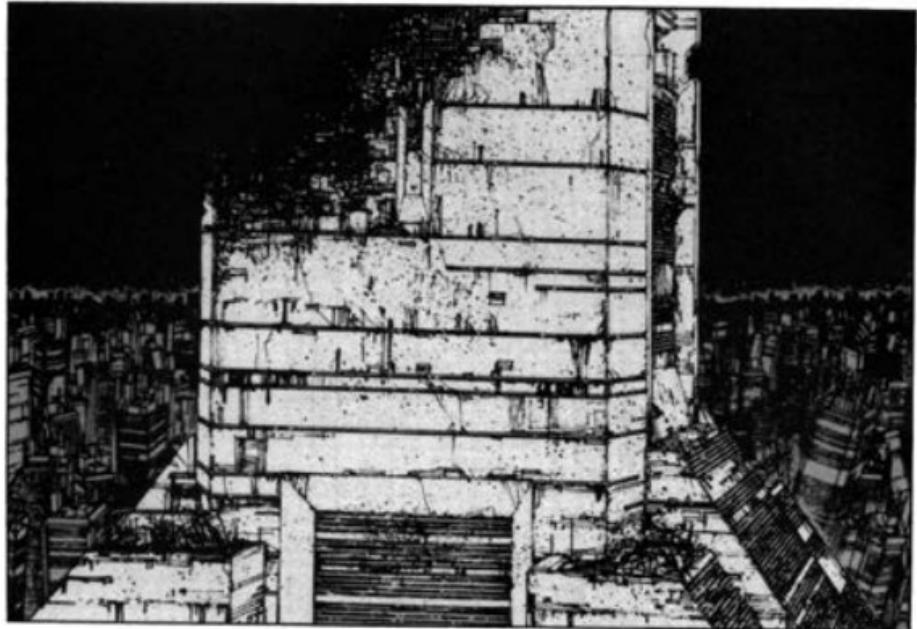




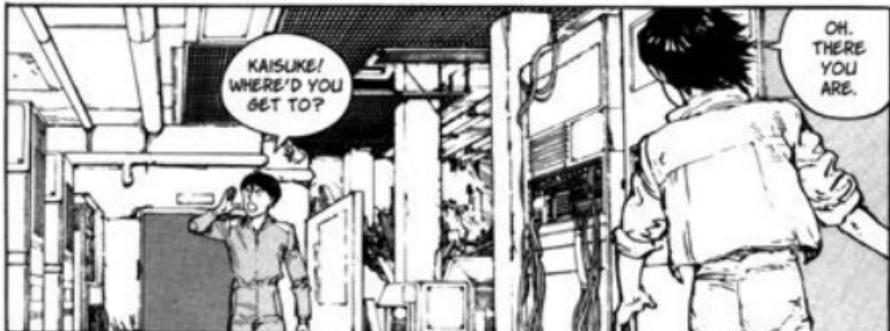




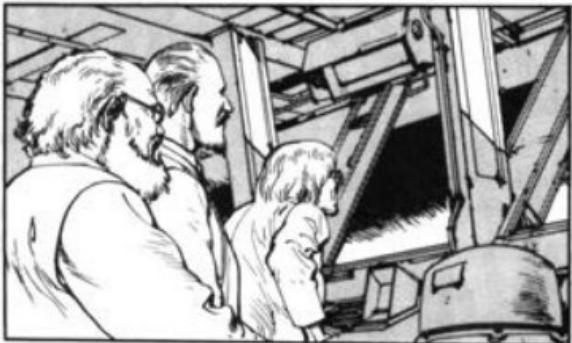




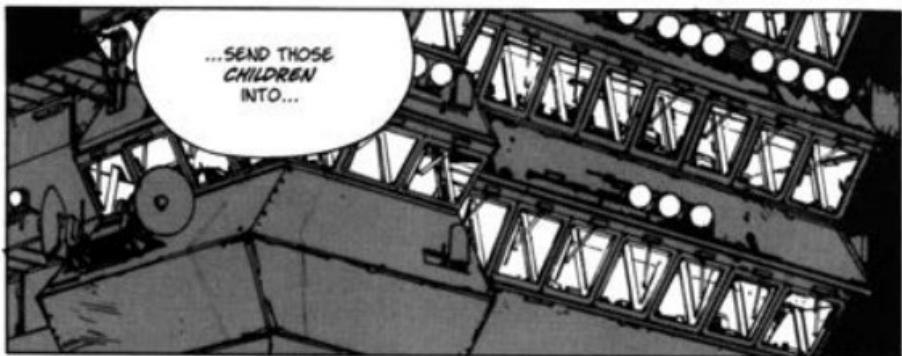








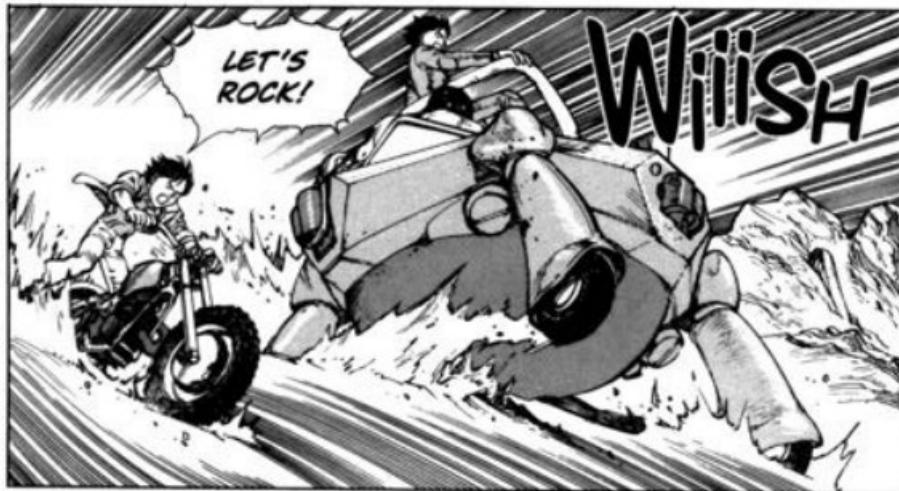














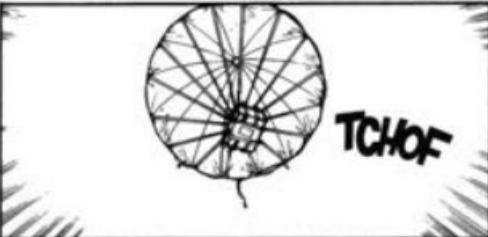


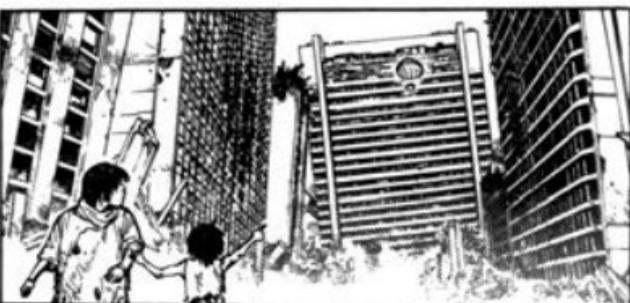




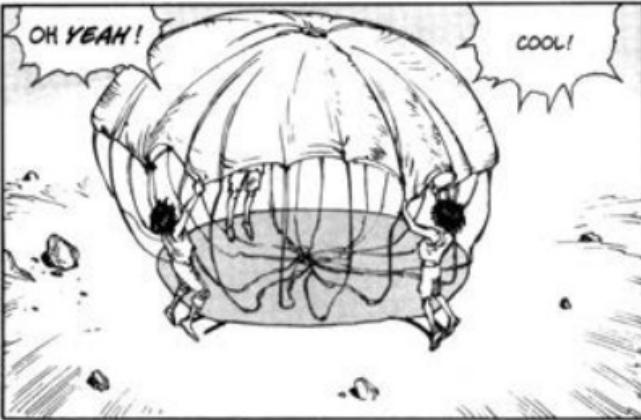


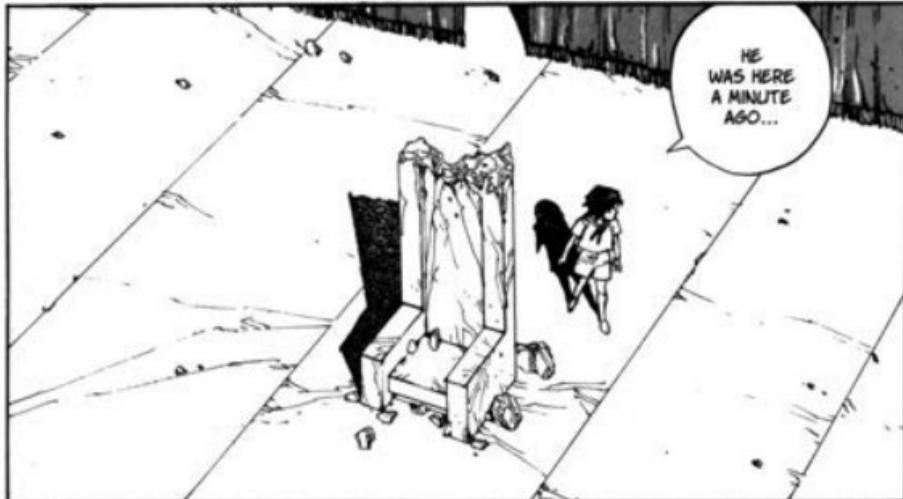
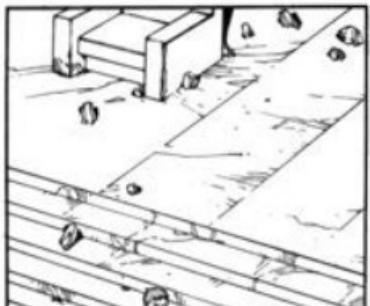


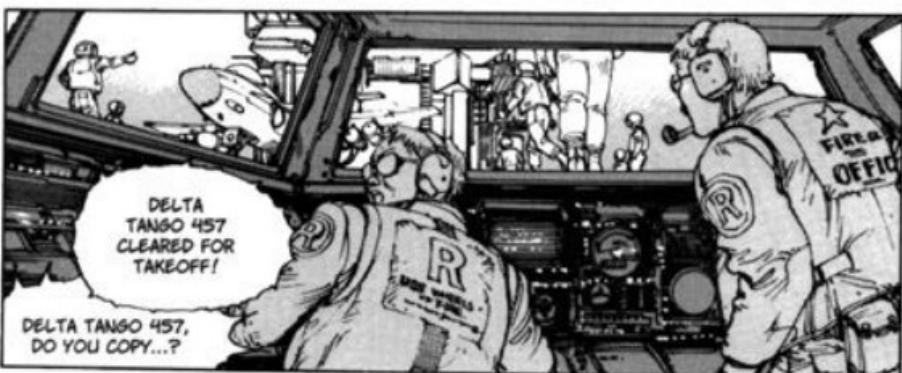
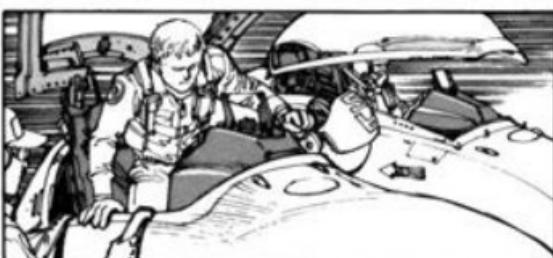


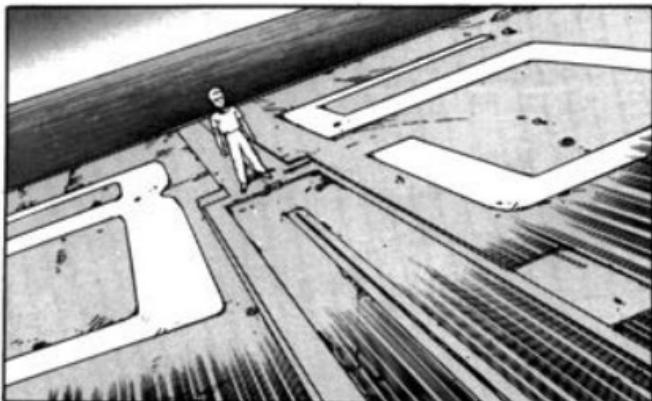
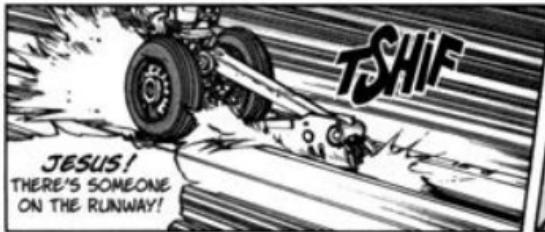


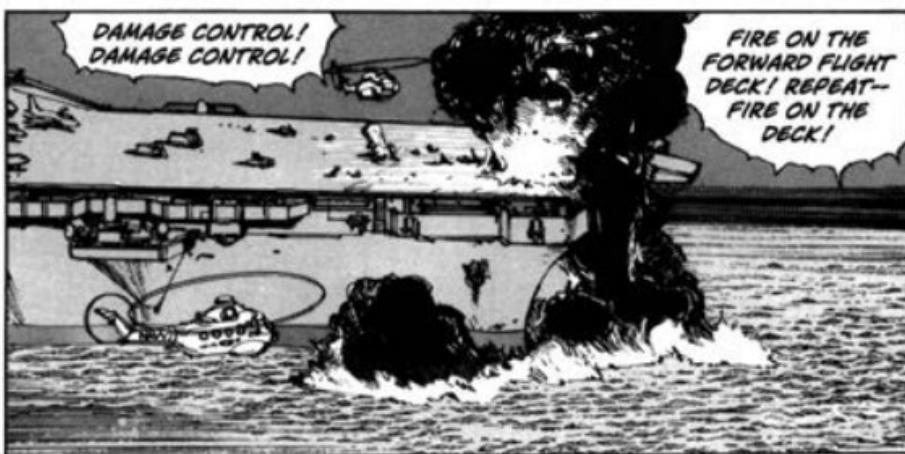




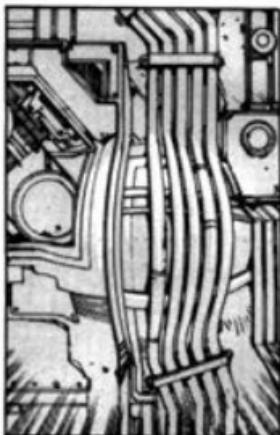




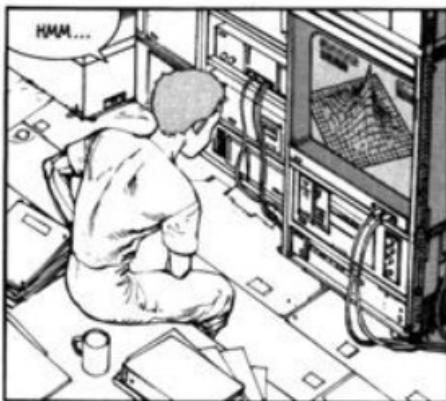
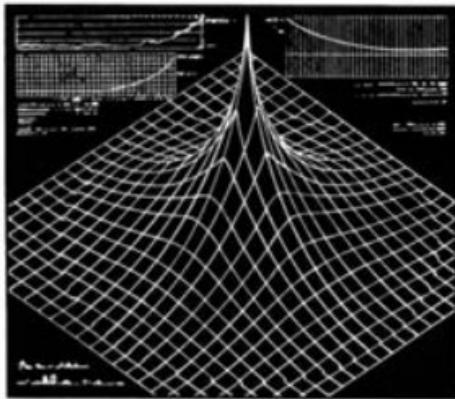














SCIENTISTS.
JUST STAY IN
YOUR DARK
LITTLE LABS...

...PEER THROUGH YOUR
MICROSCOPES,
PEEK OUT AT
THE SKY ALL
NIGHT THROUGH
YOUR TELESCOPES.
AND JERK OFF!



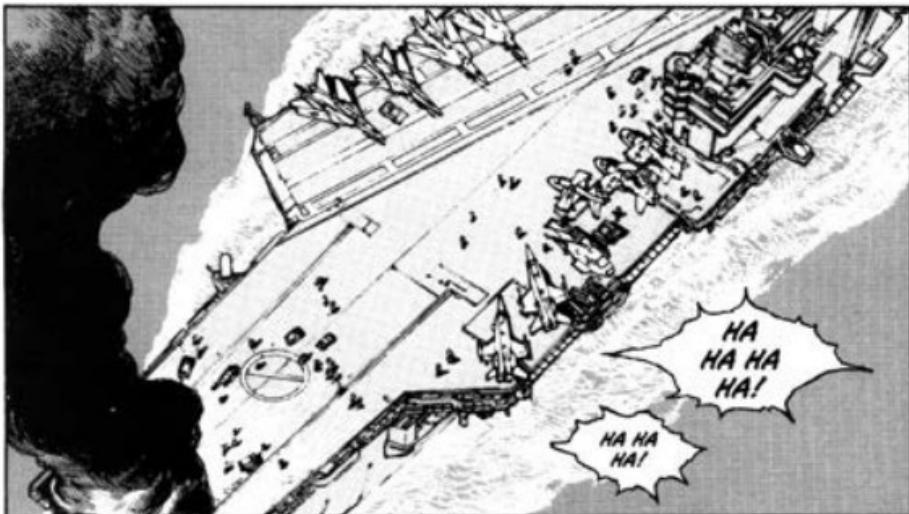


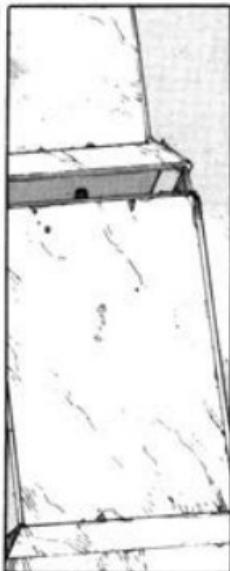
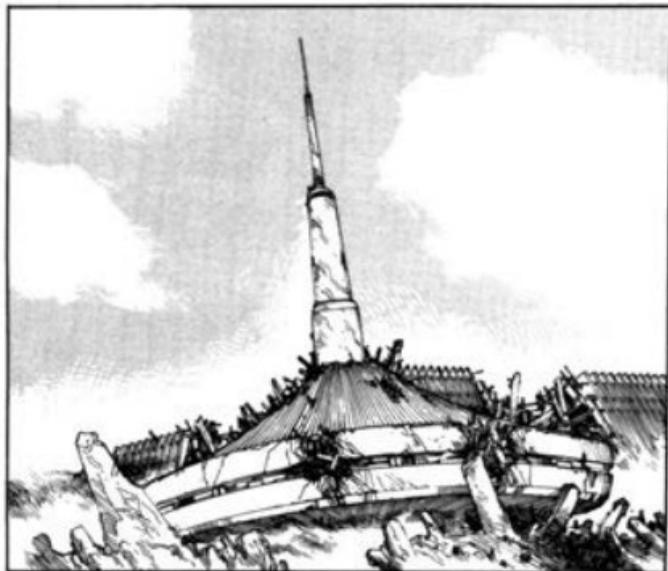


NOW
DO YOU
SEE?

THERE'S A
BIG DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN THEORY
AND REALITY...



















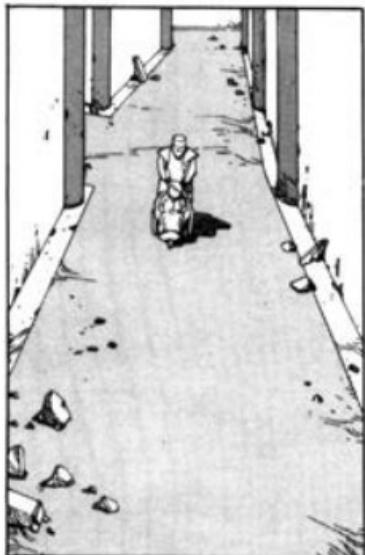




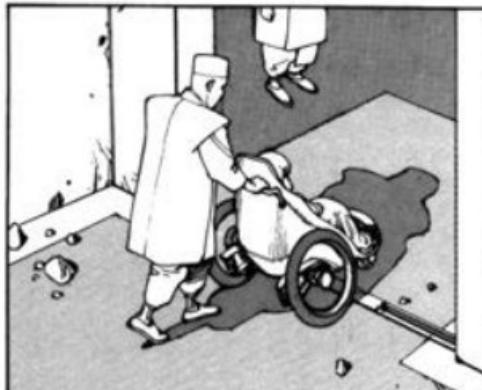


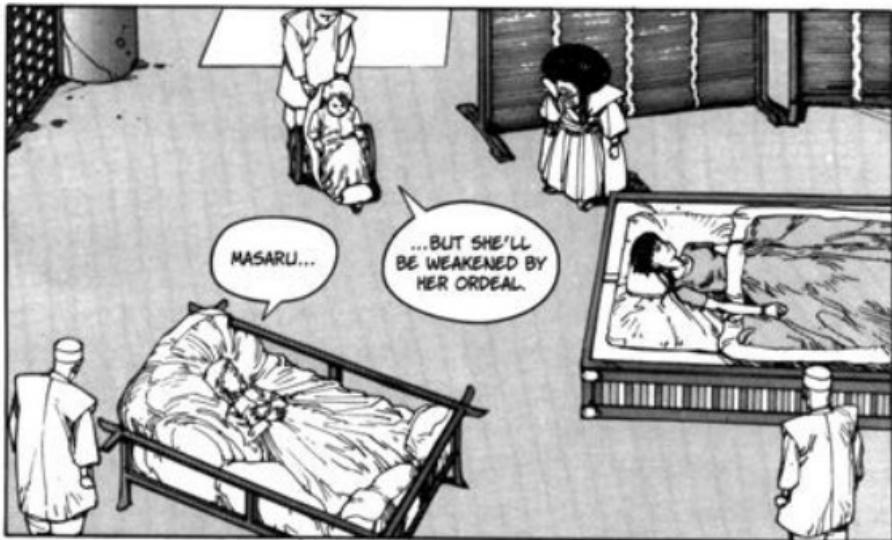


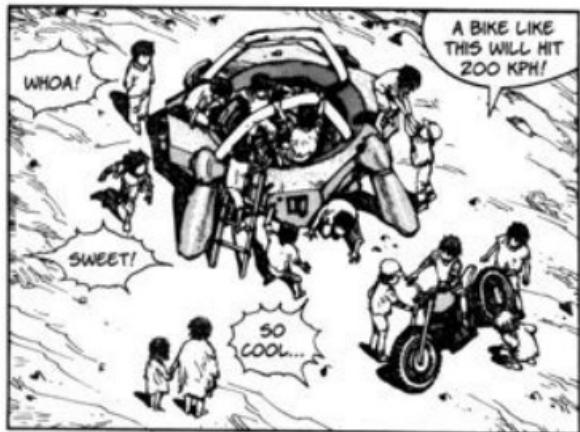








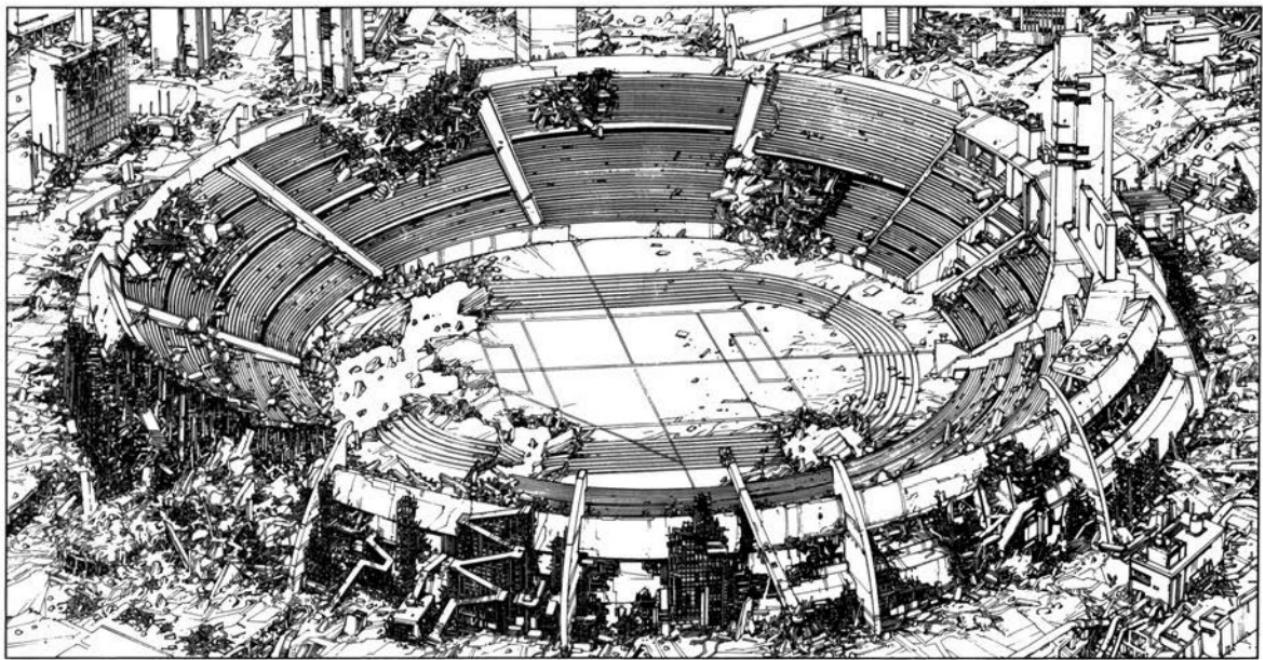










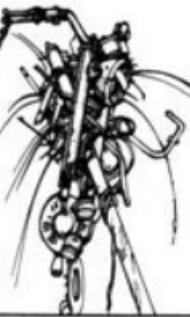




DO NOT BE MISLED
BY THE SEDUCTIVE
LIES OF MIYAKO,
SWORN ENEMY OF
OUR EMPIRE!

LET US
UNITE UNDER
THE SAME
BANNER....

...LET US
SHOW OUR
LOYALTY TO OUR
GREAT LORD
AKIRA.



THE FIGHT
CONTINUES!
WE HAVE
NO OTHER
CHOICE!

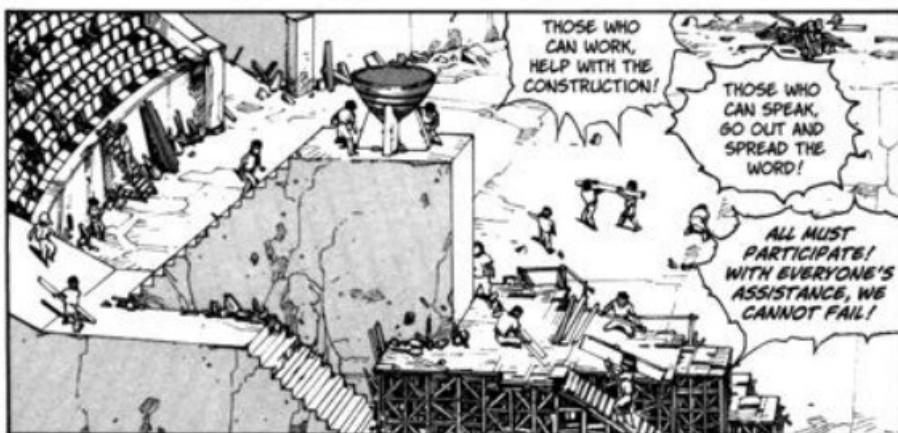
PROVE YOUR RESPECT
AND YOUR TOTAL
DEVOTION--INCLUDING
YOU, YOU DIRTY
LITTLE SHIT!



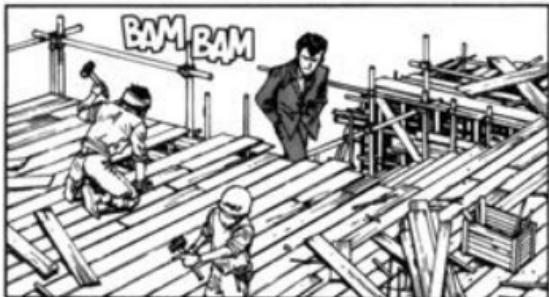
THOSE WHO
CAN WORK,
HELP WITH THE
CONSTRUCTION!

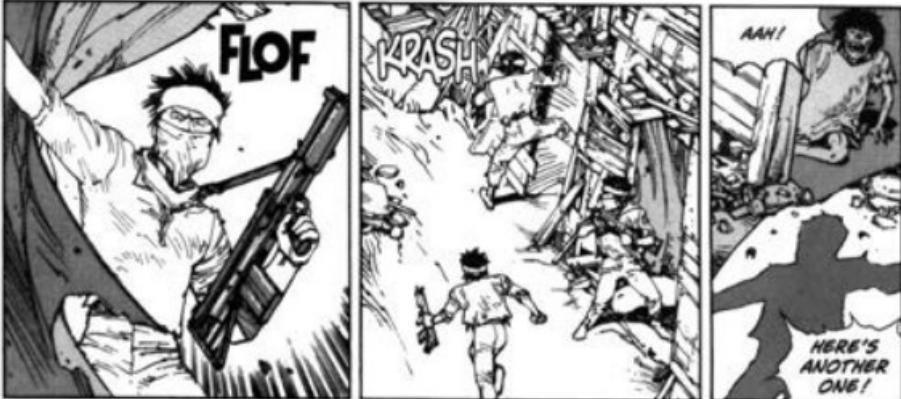
THOSE WHO
CAN SPEAK,
GO OUT AND
SPREAD THE
WORD!

ALL MUST
PARTICIPATE!
WITH EVERYONE'S
ASSISTANCE, WE
CANNOT FAIL!















THEY'VE GOT
ELECTRICITY
...?!



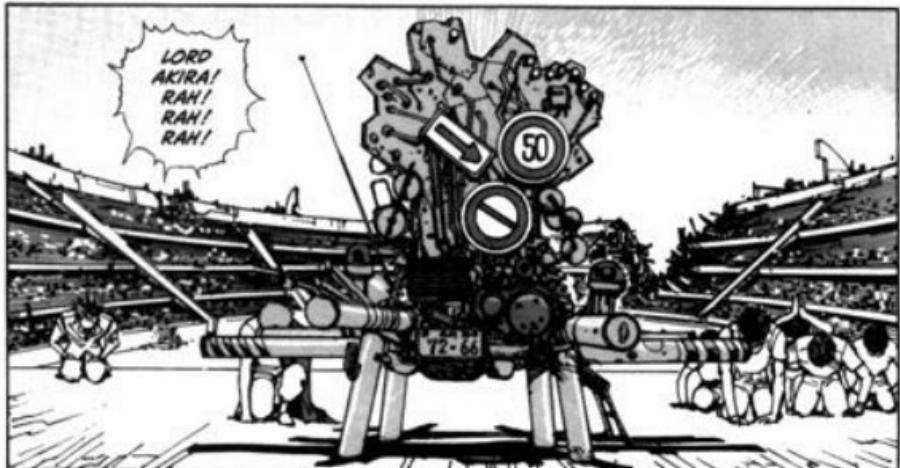
YOU'RE
THE ONLY ONE
WHO FEELS
ALL RIGHT,
DIPSHIT!



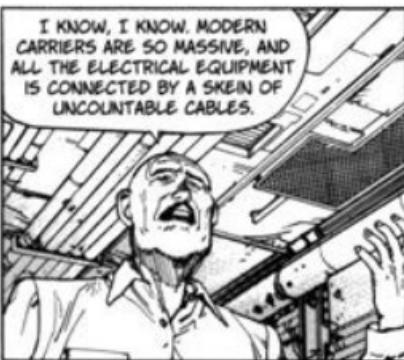


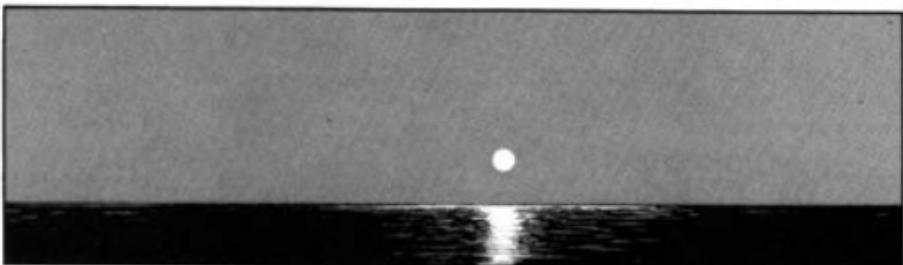
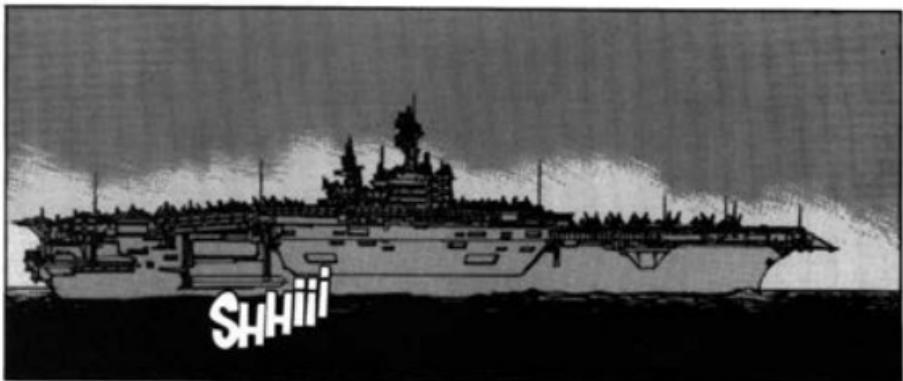
















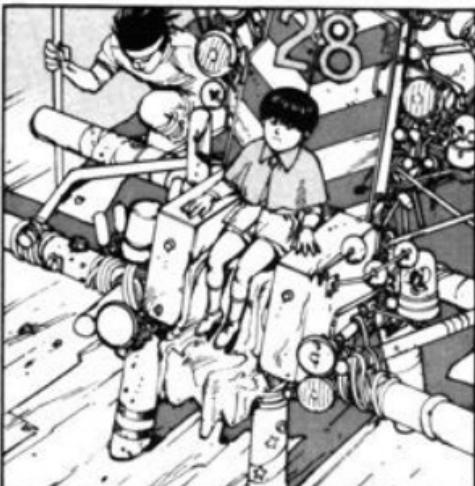
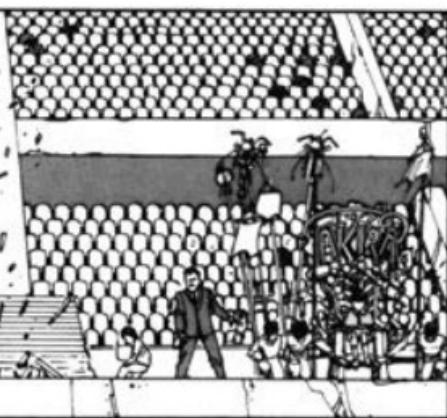
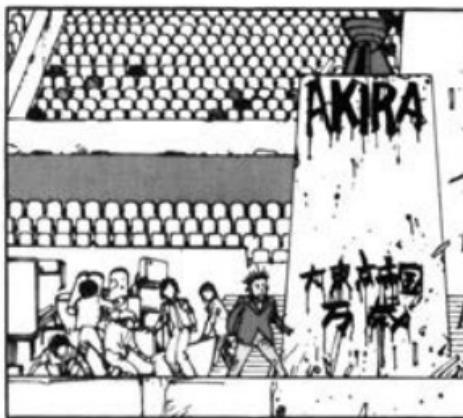


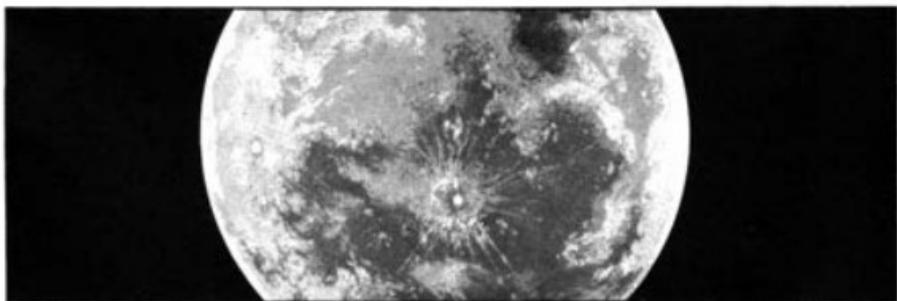










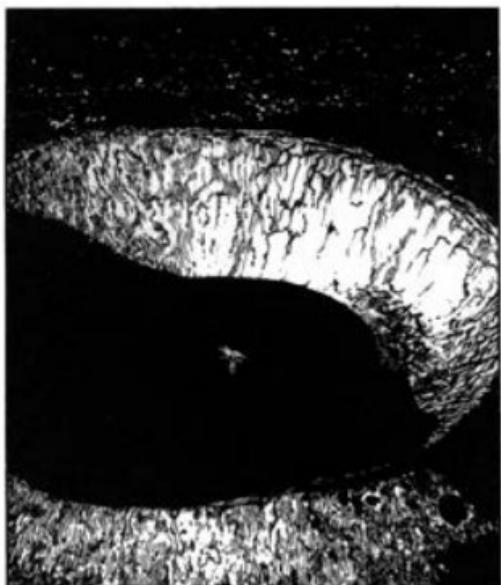
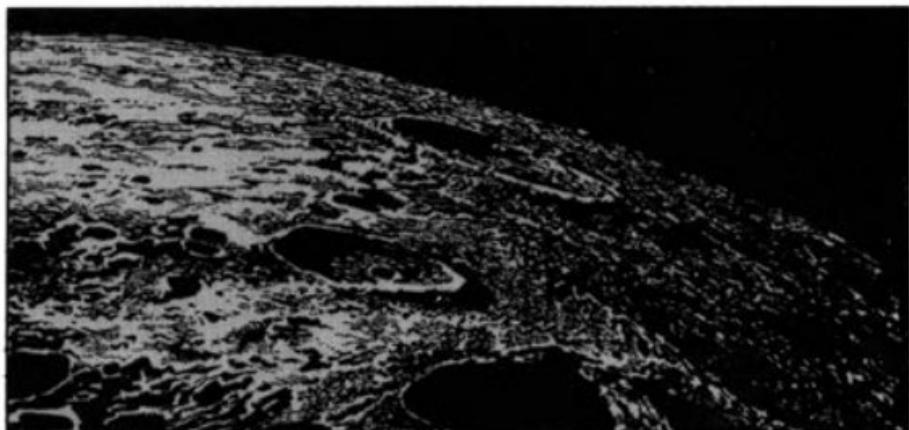


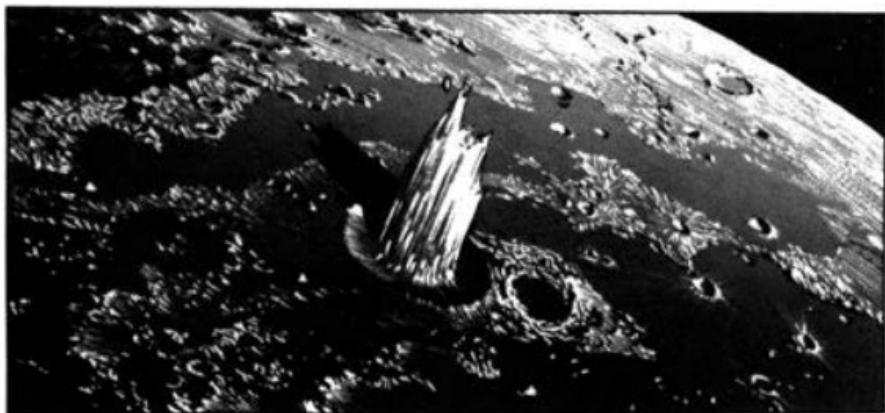
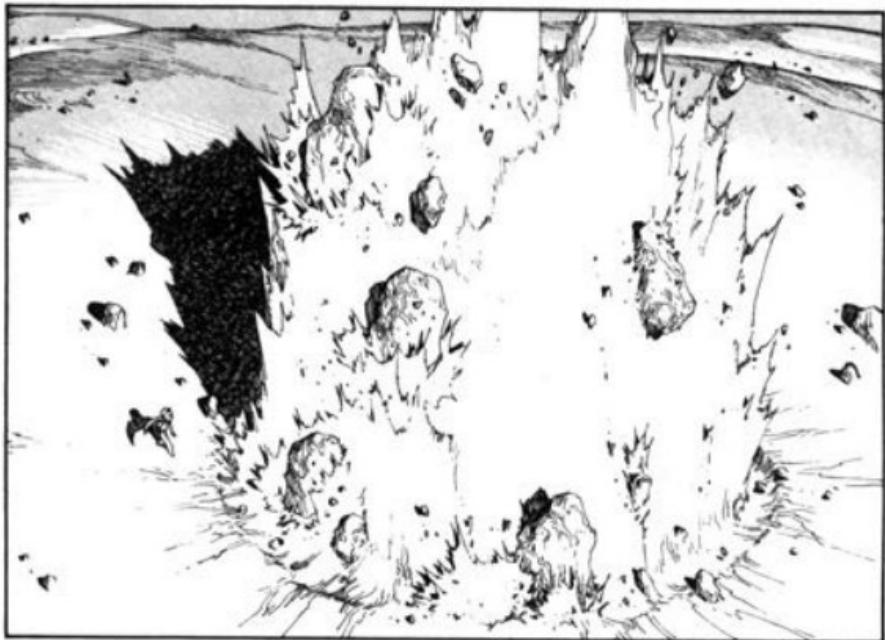


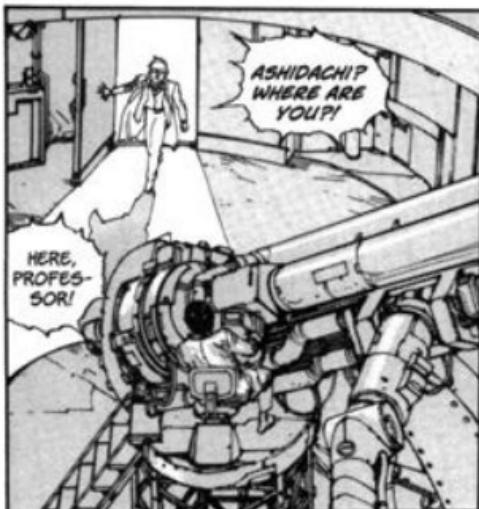
222

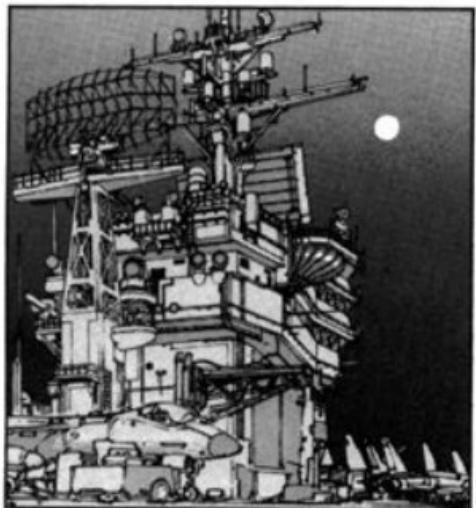


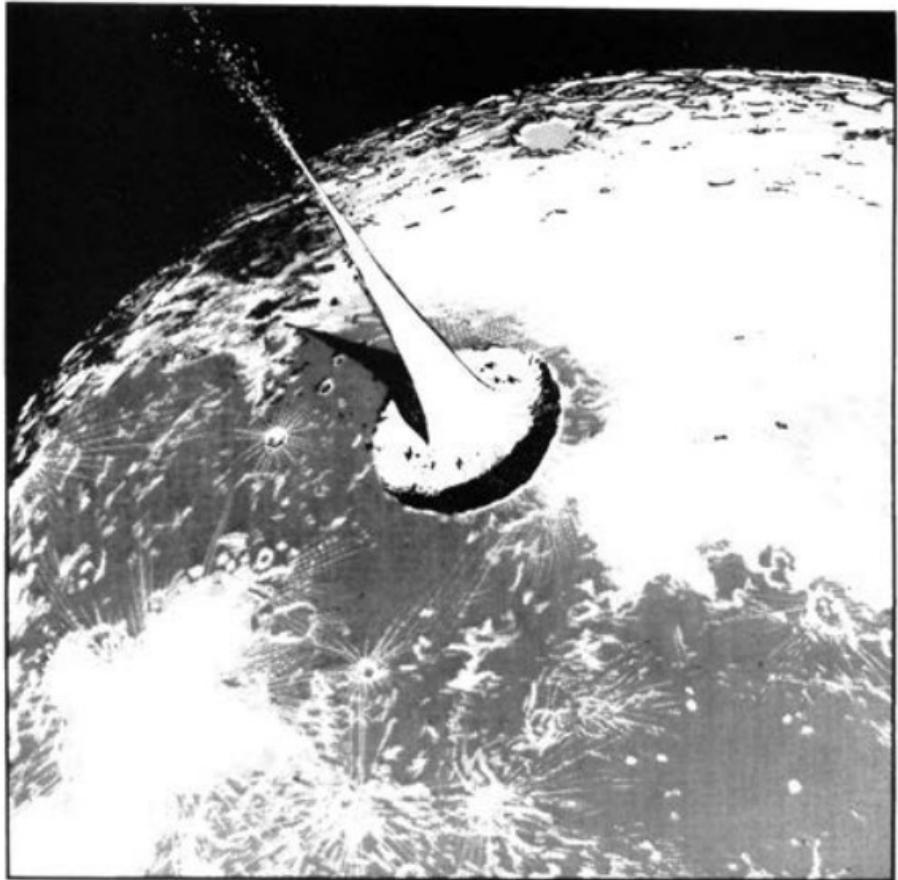
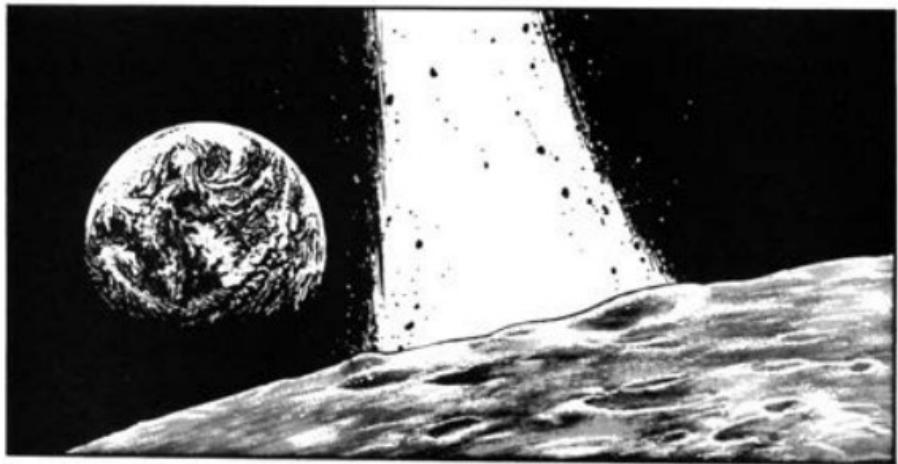
223

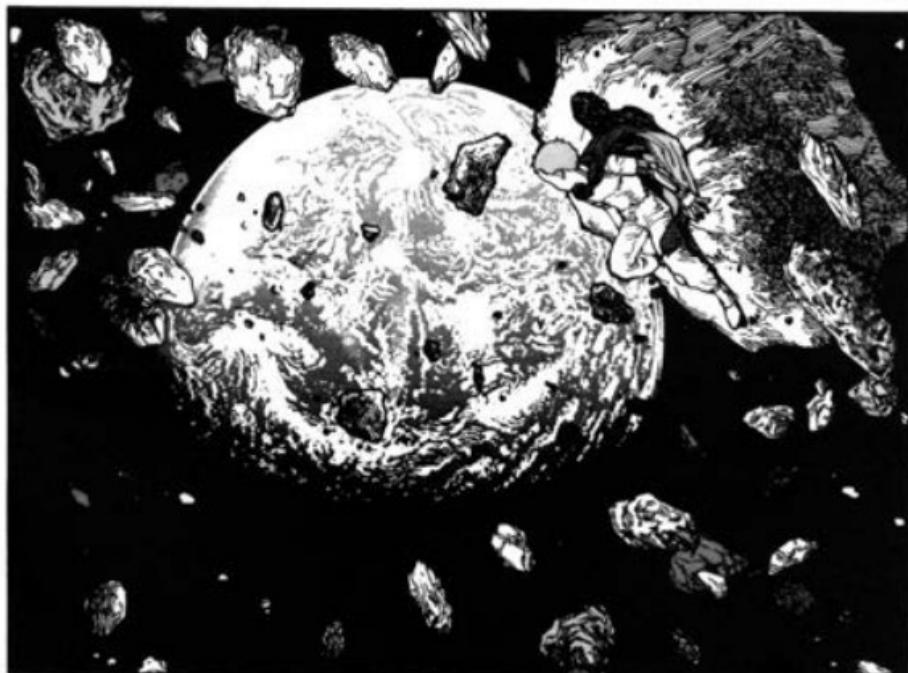
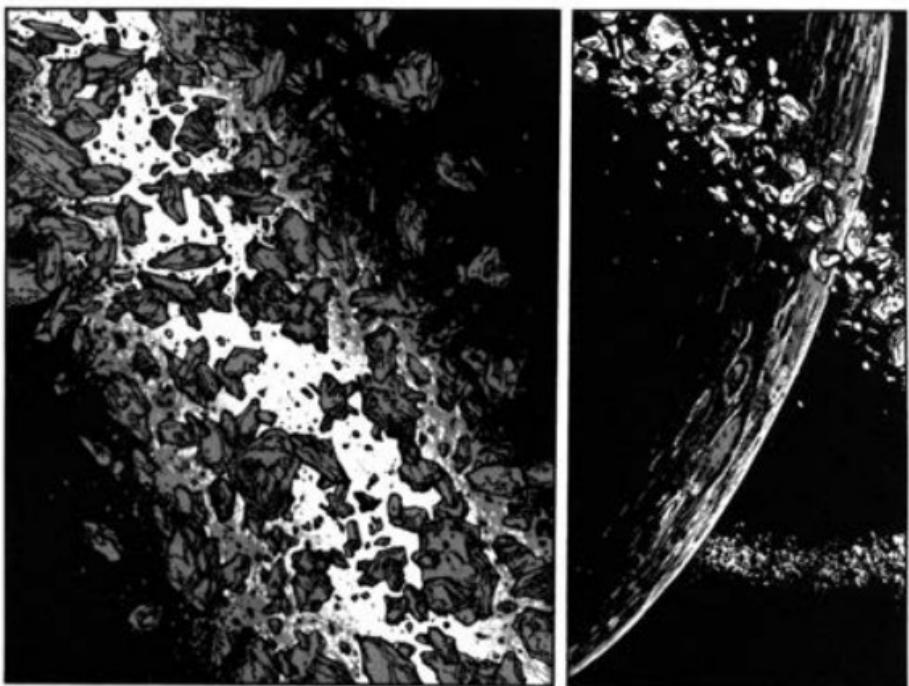


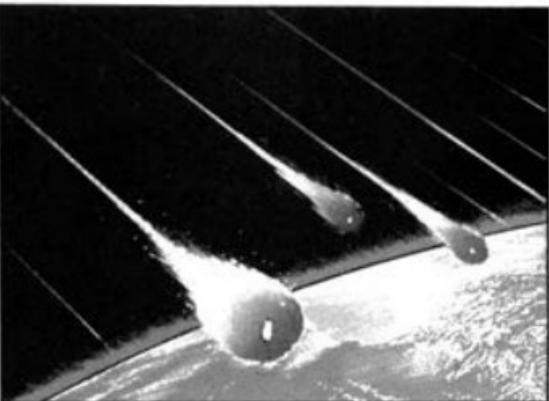
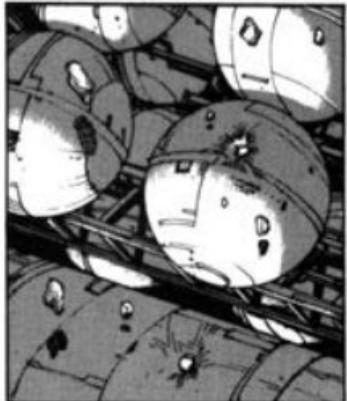
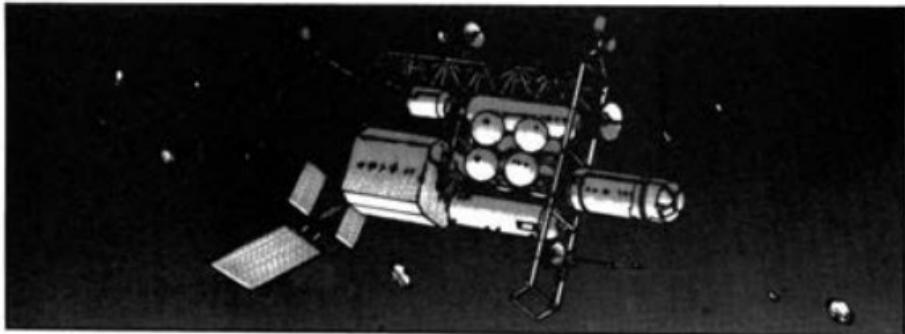




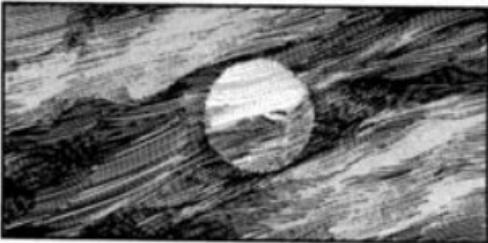


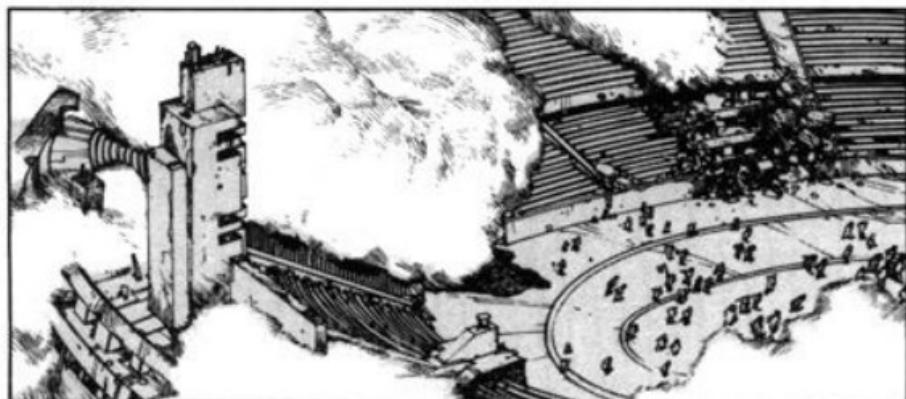








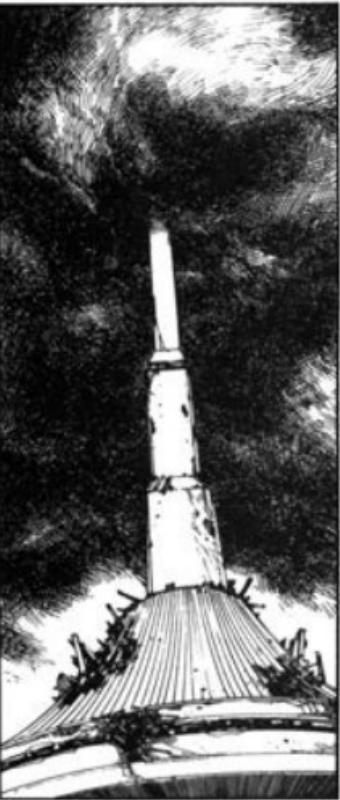
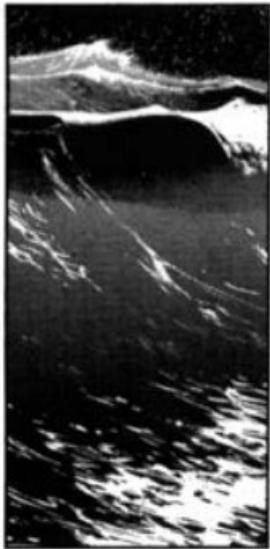




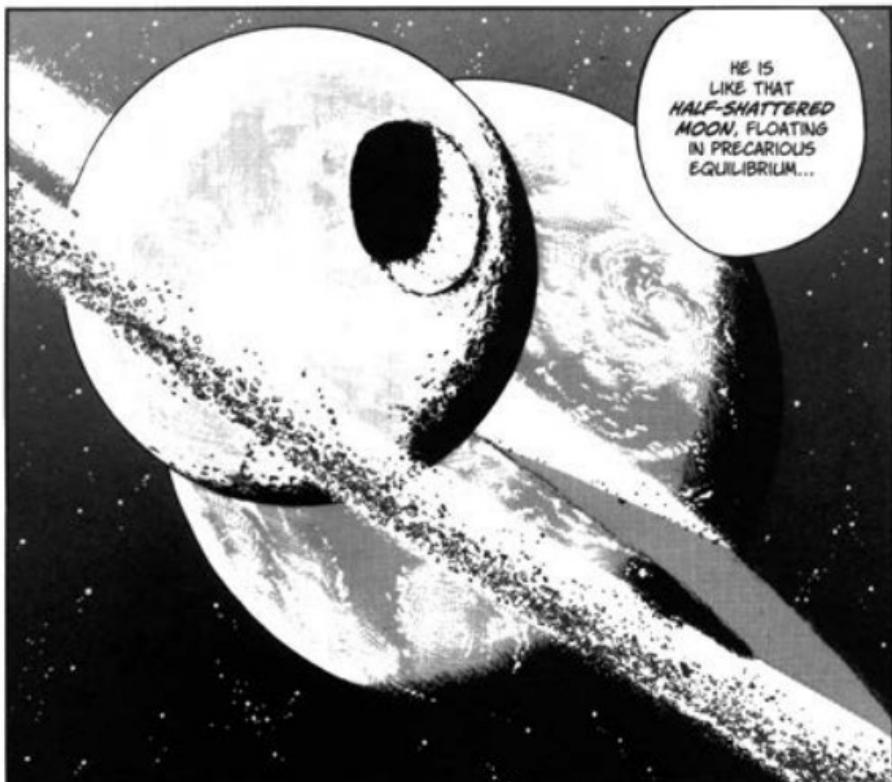


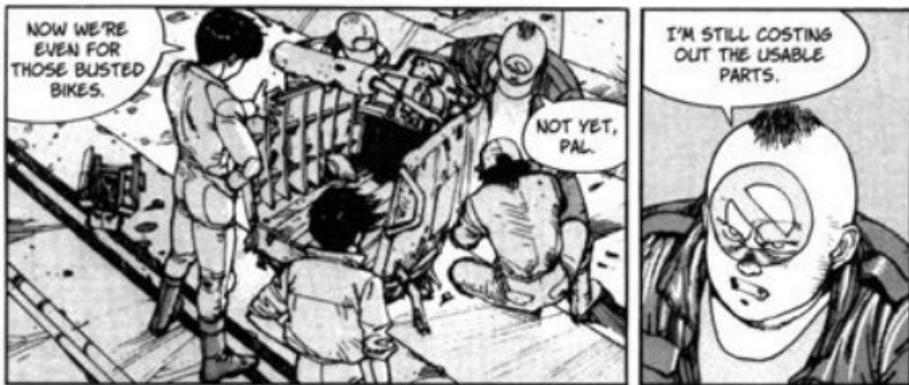


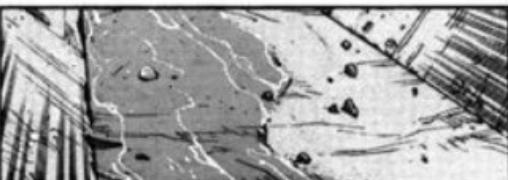










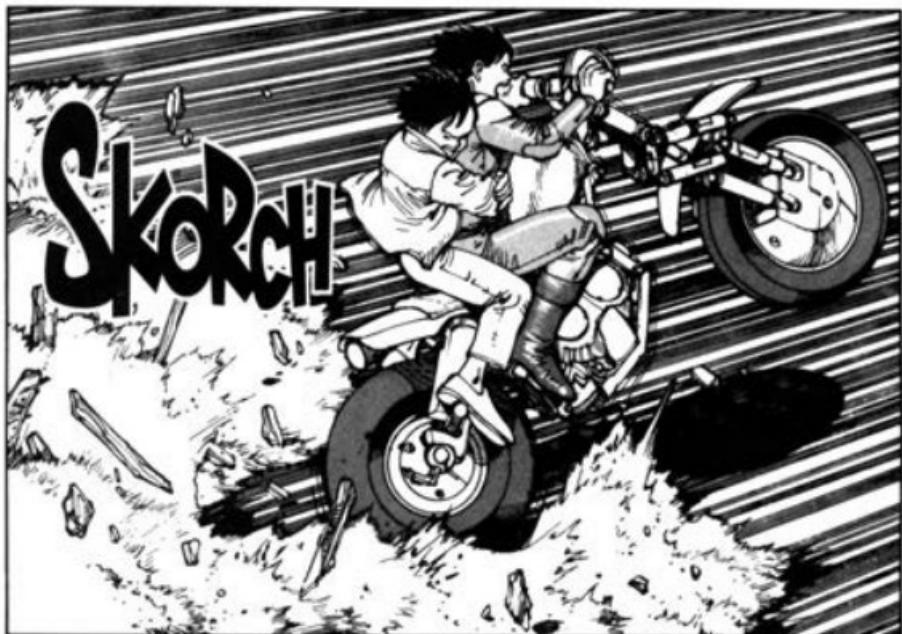




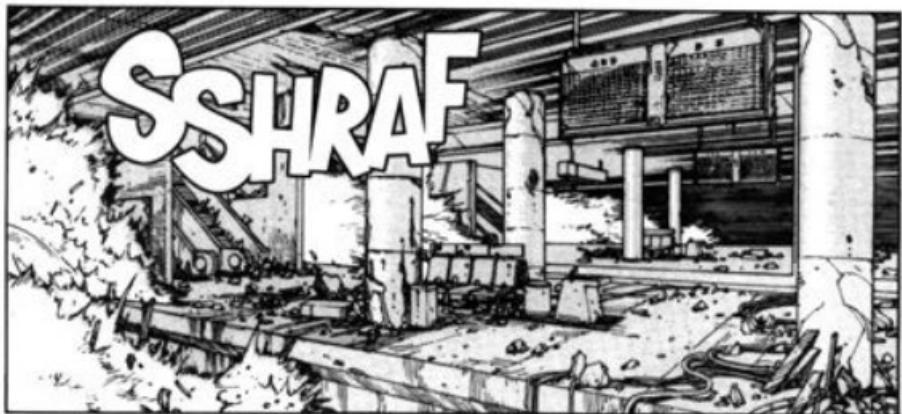


















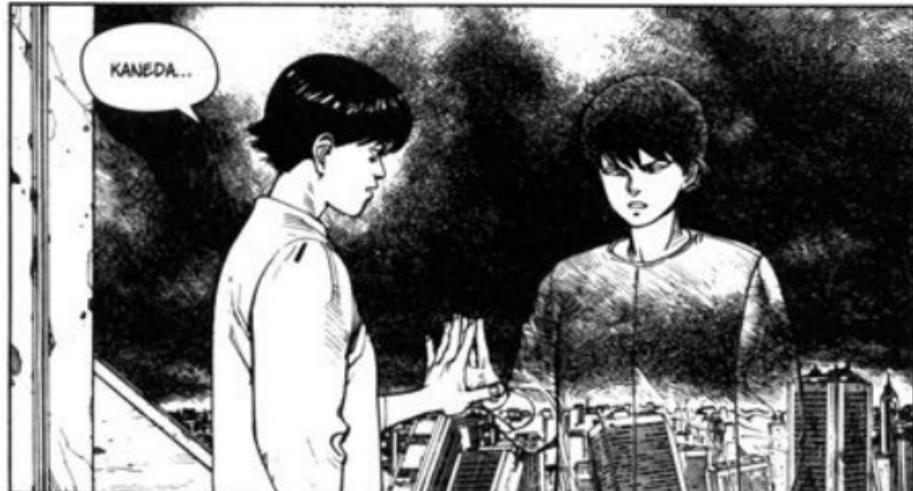














THIS IS INTOLERABLE!
WHY ARE WE BEING
KEPT OUT OF THE PLAN
OF ACTION AGAINST
AKIRA?!

WE HAVE THE RIGHT AND
THE DUTY TO ASSIST AND
ADVISE IN THIS OPERATION.
IT'S OUR PREROGATIVE,
AND YOU KNOW IT!

THIS WAS DECIDED
AT THE PRESIDENTIAL
LEVEL. I'M SORRY, BUT
IT'S OUT OF MY HANDS.

WHAT ABOUT THE REPORTS
WE SUBMITTED?

I UNDERSTAND THEY
WERE GIVEN FULL
CONSIDERATION.

IN THAT CASE,
WE WANT TO ADDRESS
THE PRESIDENT IN
PERSON.

IF HE'LL
ONLY LISTEN,
WE CAN MINIMIZE
THE LOSS OF
HUMAN LIFE
AND--

GENTLEMEN,
LISTEN CARE-
FULLY...

...A SOLDIER'S DUTY IS TO CARRY OUT HIS
ASSIGNMENT AS ORDERED. WE ARE NOT HERE
TO DEBATE. THE LOSSES WILL BE JUSTIFIED
IF THE OPERATION IS SUCCESSFUL. I HAVE
NOTHING MORE TO SAY ON THE MATTER.





COMMENCEMENT OF THE FOURTH PHASE WILL BE ALERTED BY A SIGNAL ROCKET FIRED BY THE MAIN FORCE.

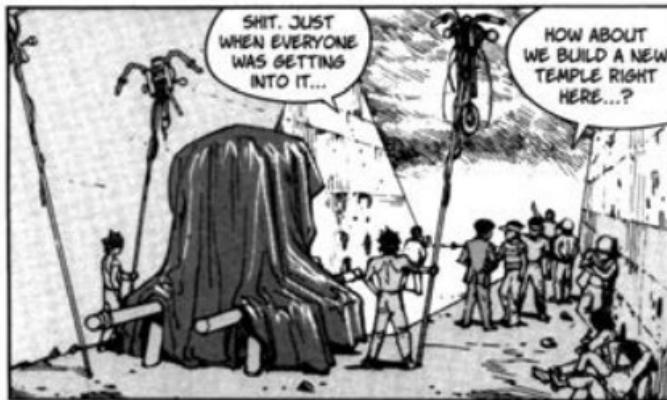


THIS IS WHAT YOU'VE TRAINED FOR!



THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT BATTLE YOU WILL EVER FIGHT!

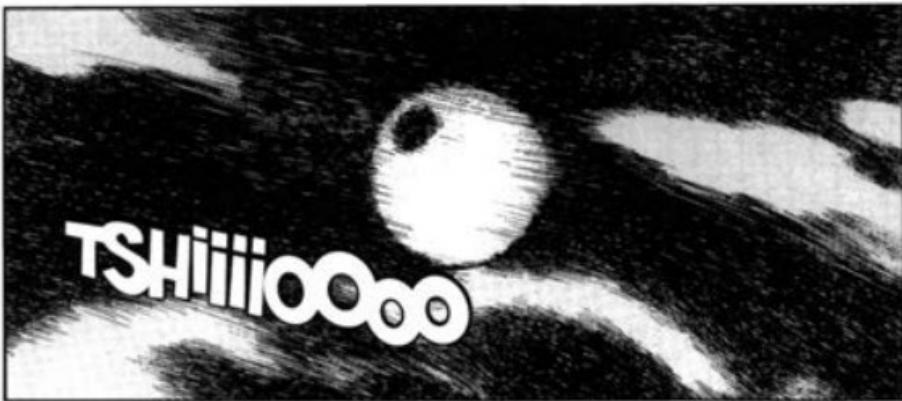




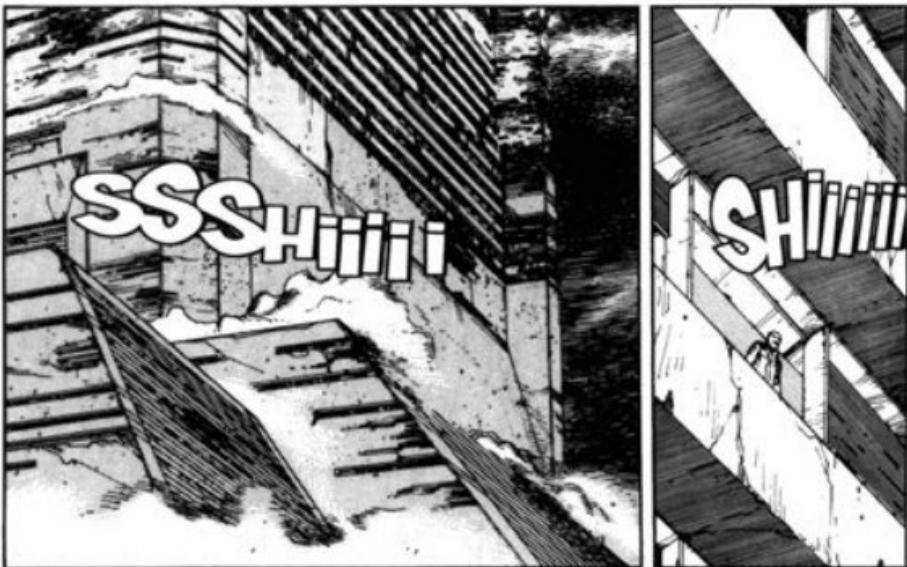








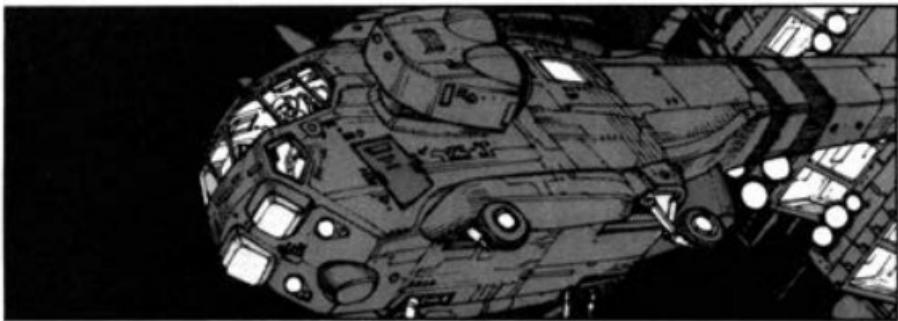




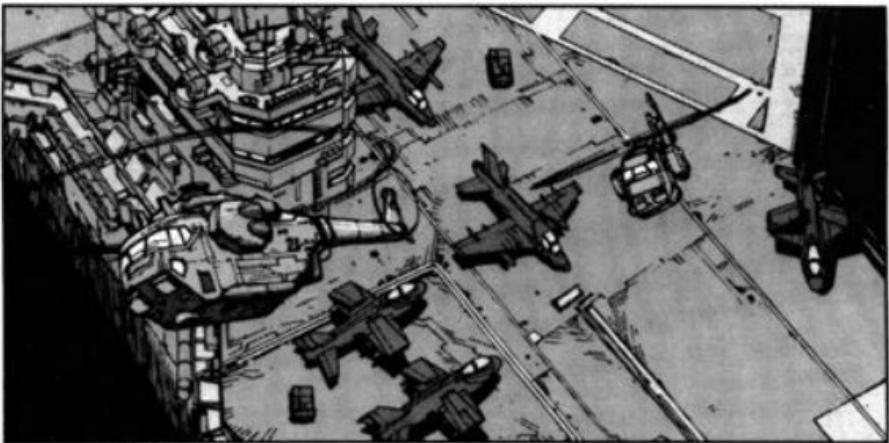








AS SOON AS TAKEOFF PROCEDURES FOR THIS FLIGHT ARE COMPLETE, MOVE ALL REMAINING DECK AIRCRAFT INTO THE HANGAR.



LISTEN UP,
GUYS, I'M
NOT GONNA
REPEAT
THIS!



THAT'S A CHOPPY SEA
OUT THERE, WITH A
HIGH WIND, SO IF
YOU CAN'T REACH
A BOAT ONCE
WE HIT THE
WATER...



...PROCEED TO SHORE
UNDER YOUR OWN
POWER!

RENDIZZOUSS AT POINT
ALPHA-3 AT OH-THREE-
HUNDRED, INITIATE OP AT
OH-THREE-FIFTEEN!

ANY STRAGGLERS
WILL BE CONSIDERED
DROWNED! THAT MEANS
NO MEDALS!

UNDERSTAND?!

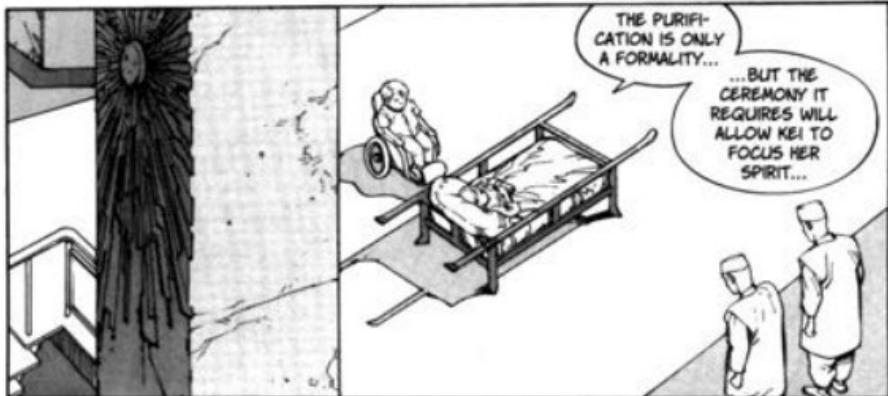
AYE AYE,
SIR!

voooooooooooo





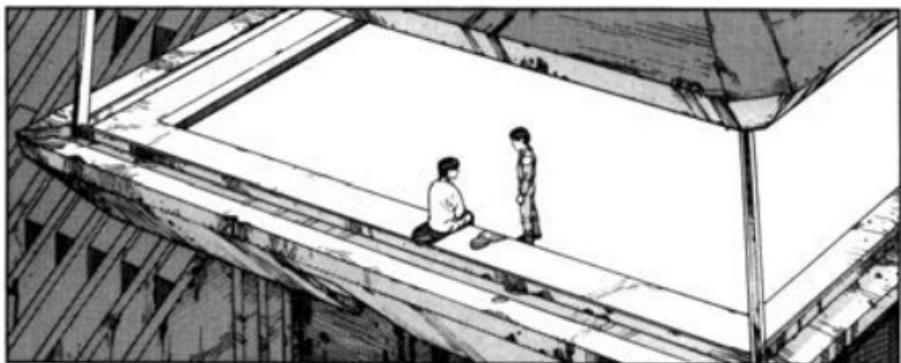








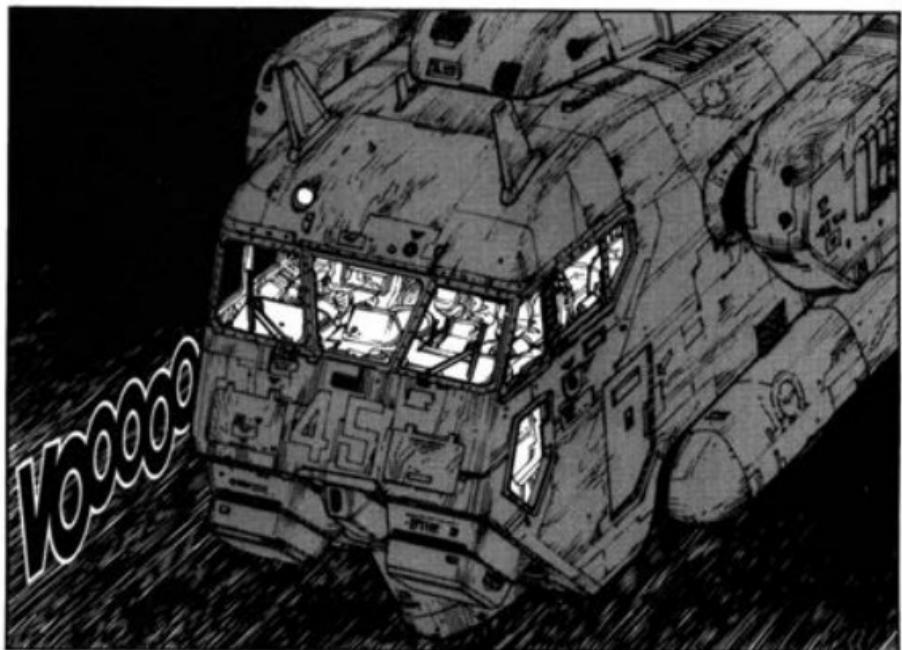






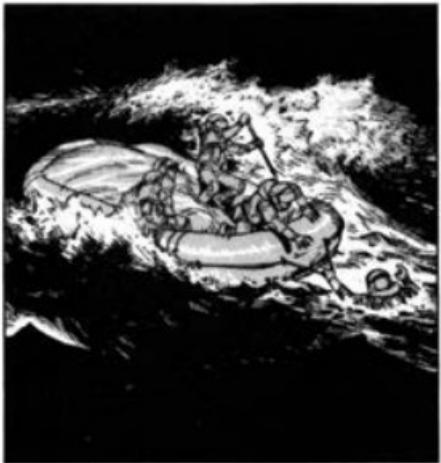




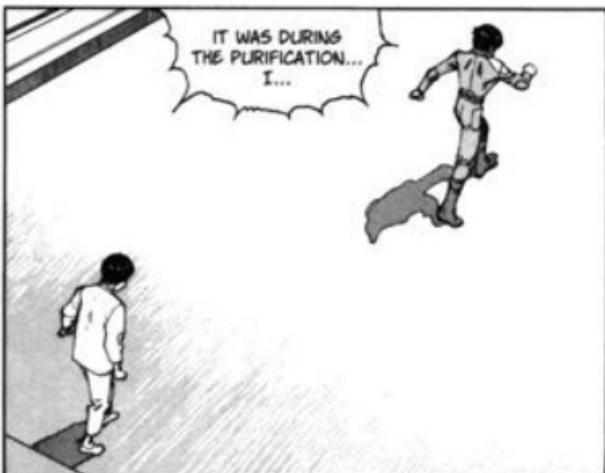
























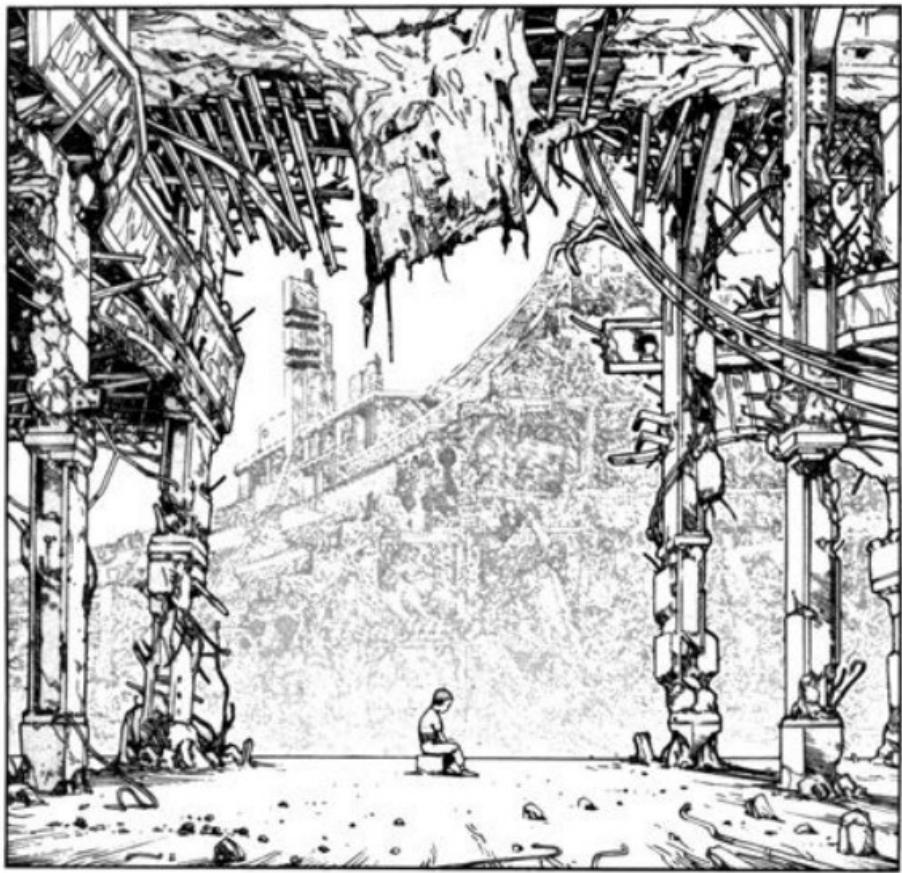














I FINALLY
SETTLED DOWN A
BIT. JUST NOW.



NOW, COME
HERE...



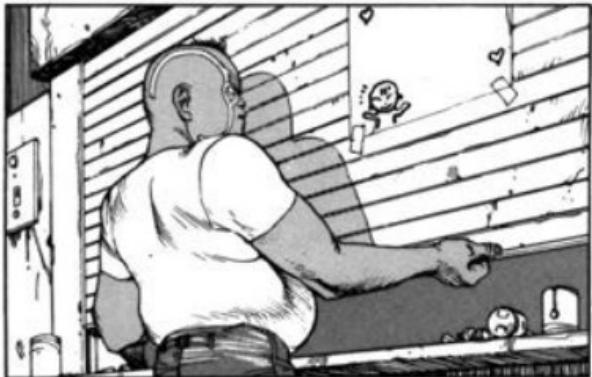










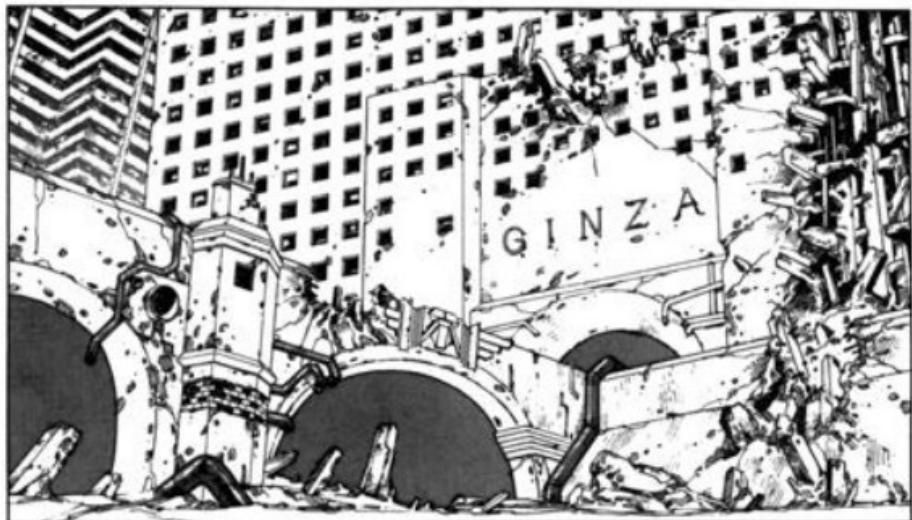




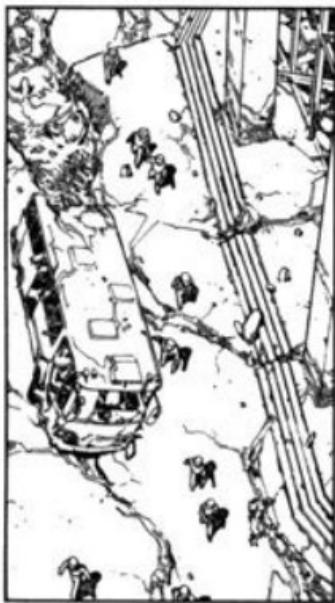




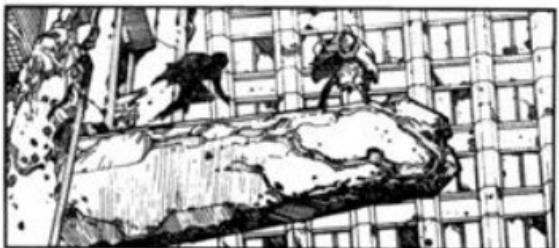






















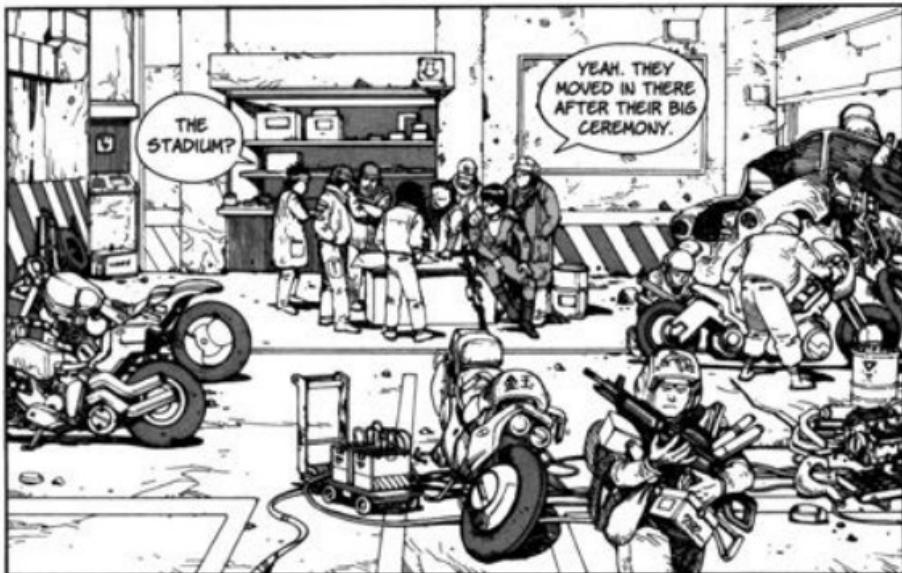




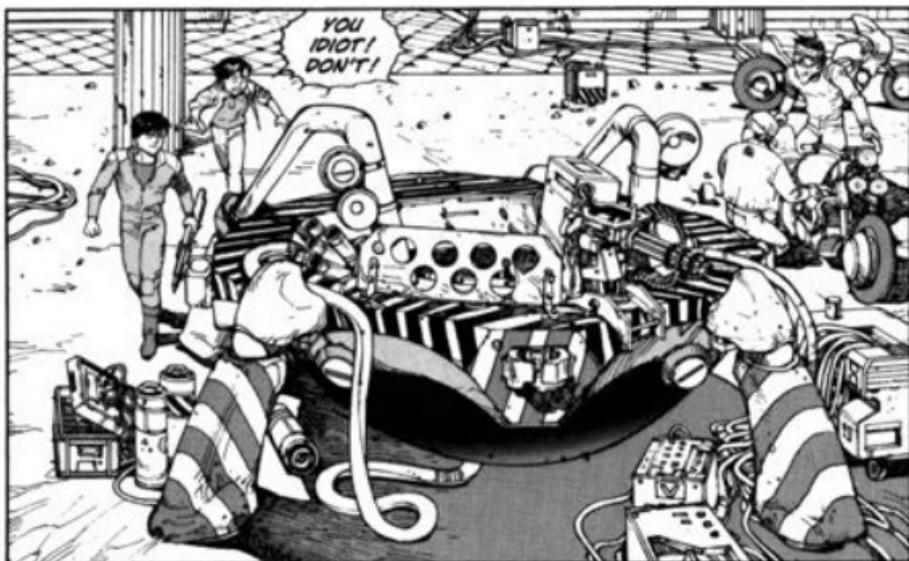




WE NEED
TO LET HER
SLEEP...

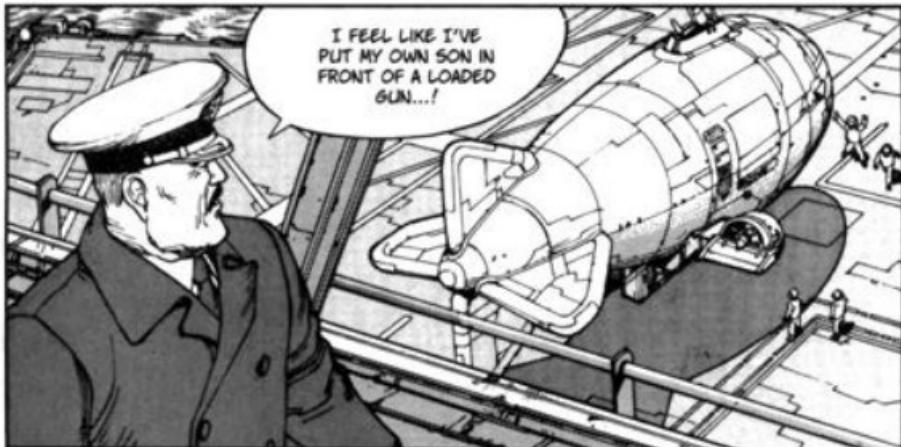




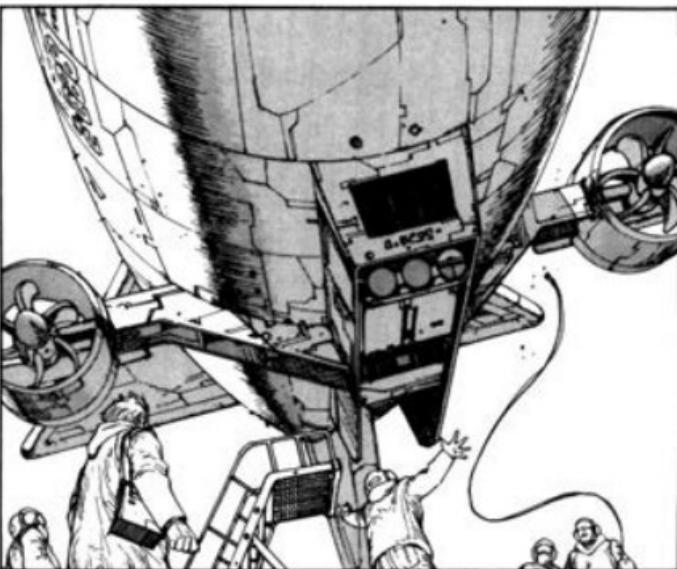










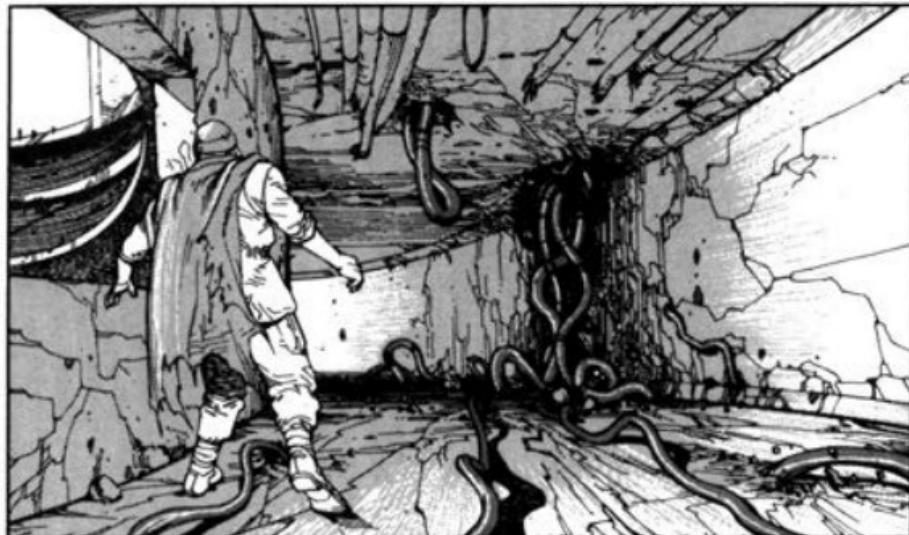
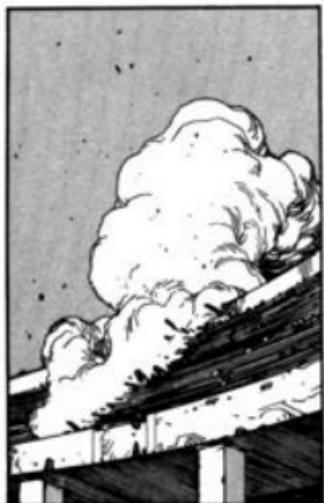










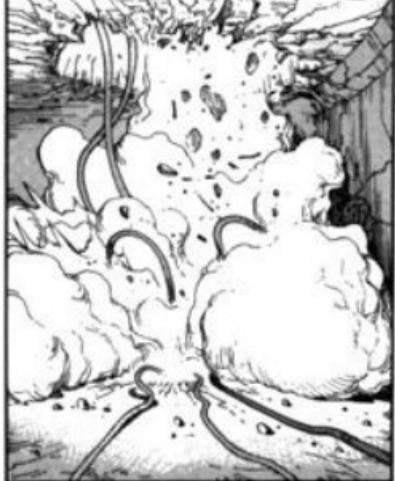


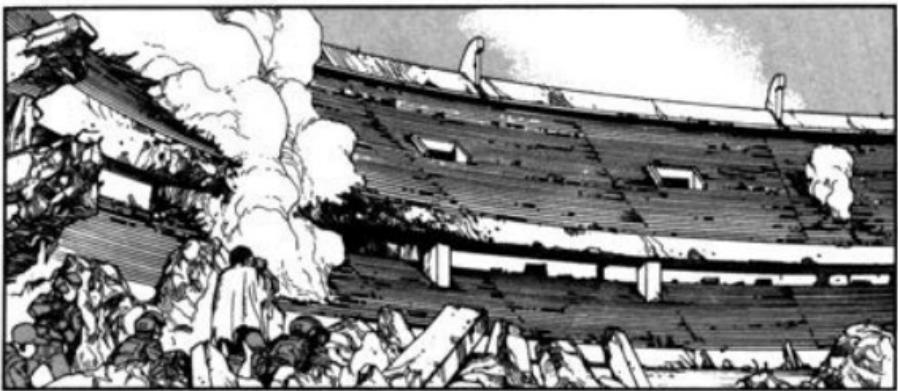


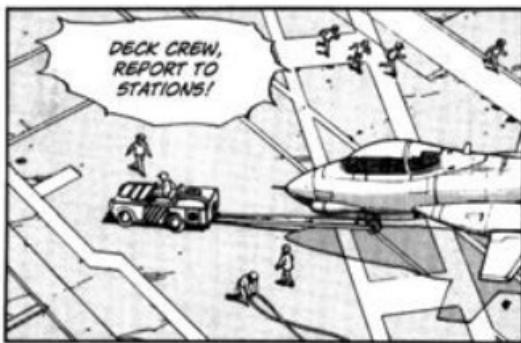
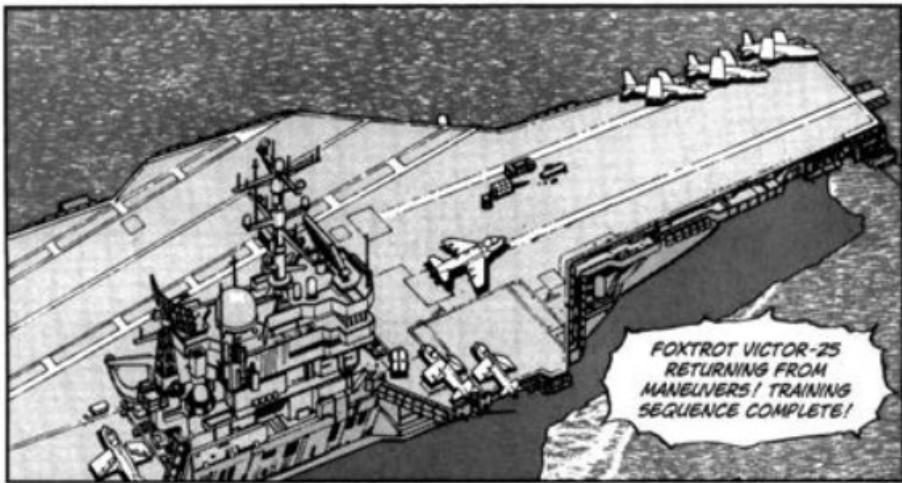




BROOM









BATTLE STATIONS!
ALL PERSONNEL TO
BATTLE STATIONS
IMMEDIATELY!

SECURE ALL
AIRCRAFT ON
DECK!

LAUNCH
THE SH-BO
HELOS AS SOON
AS THEY'RE
READY.

DAMAGE
REPORT! WHAT HIT
US! A MISSILE?!
TORPEDO??

CAN'T TELL, SIR! THERE'S NO
SMOKE VISIBLE FROM THE BRIDGE!

AAHHH!

ZBAM
THE
WHOLE
SHIP'S
TWISTING!

TH...THERE
IT IS AGAIN...!

SHRo09







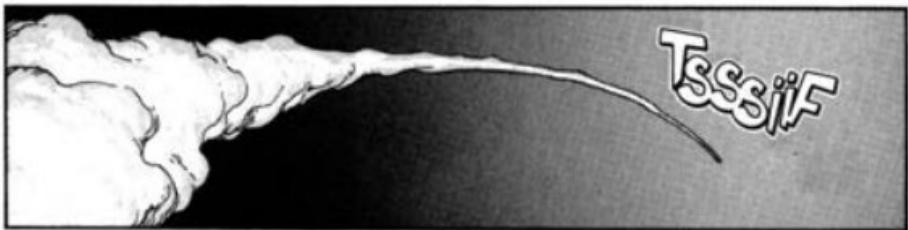
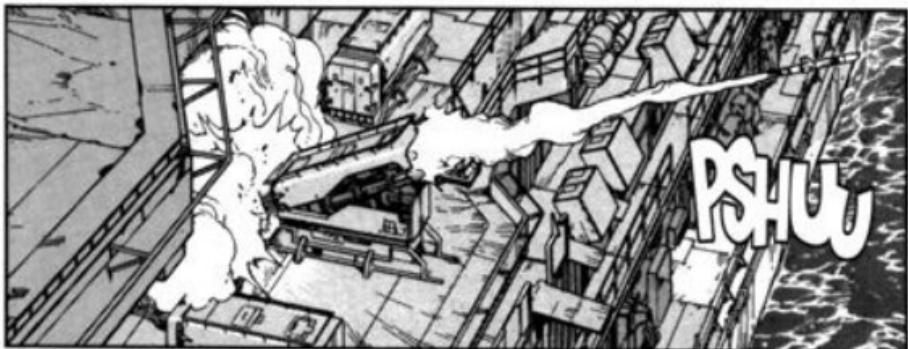
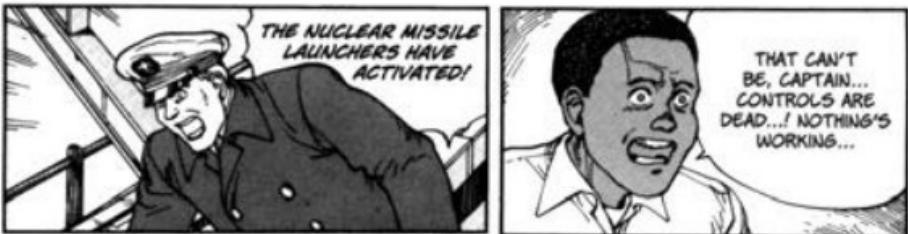
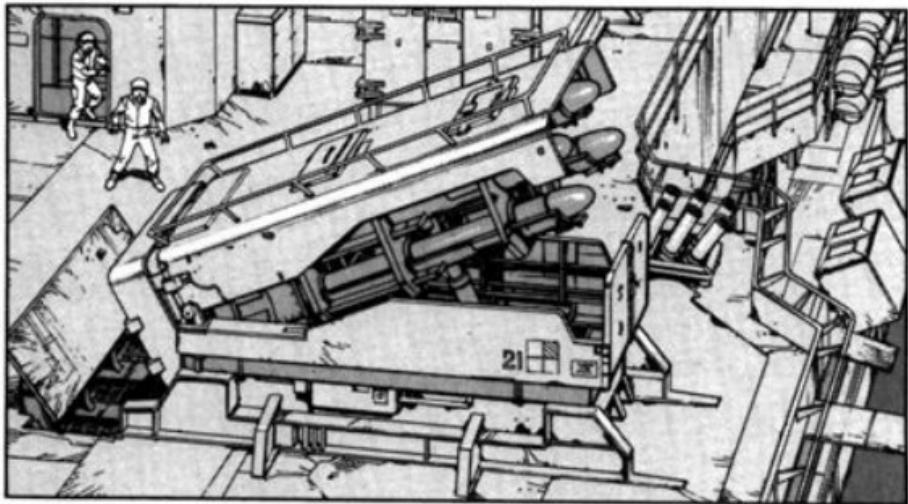


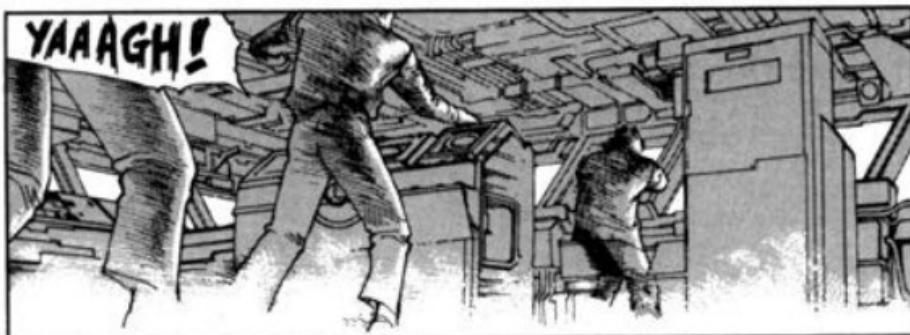
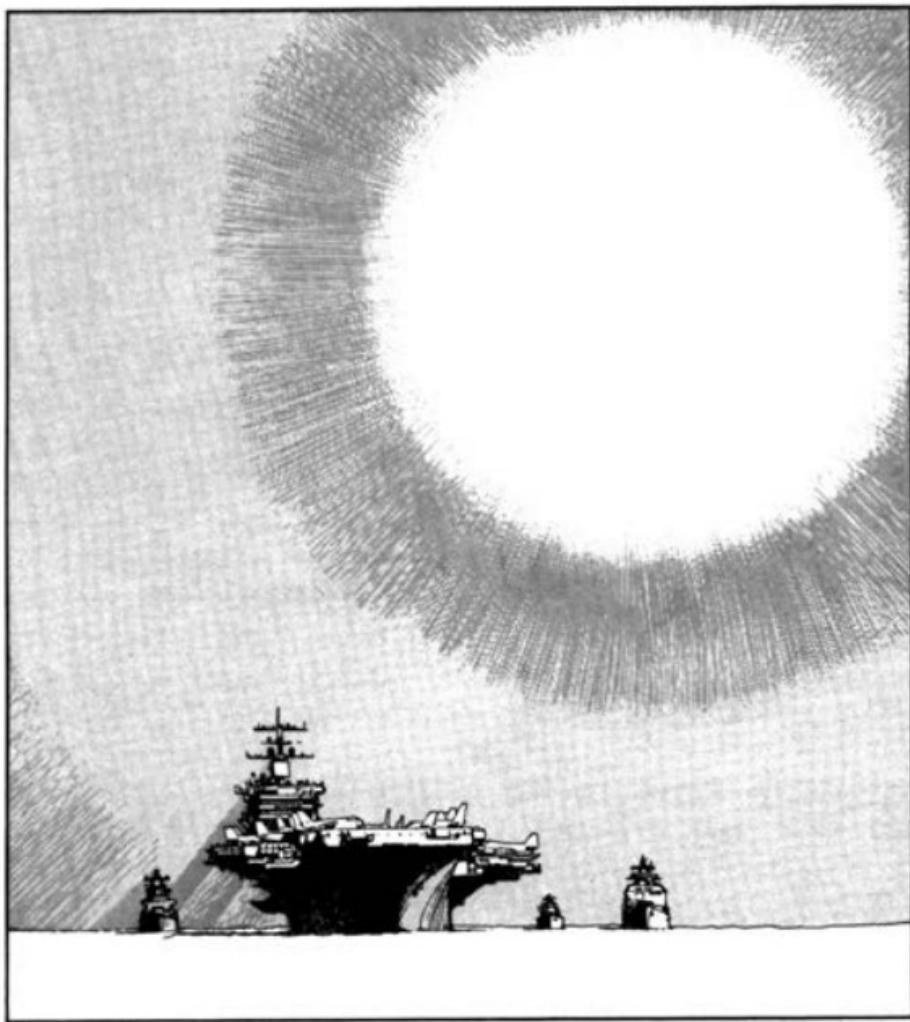


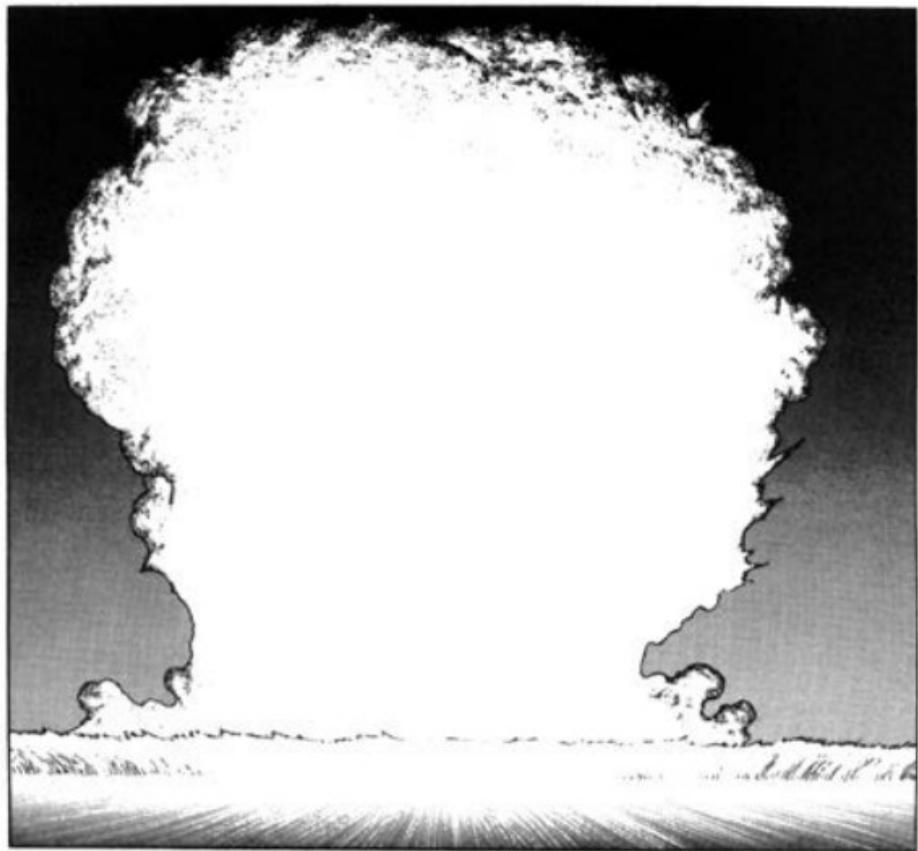


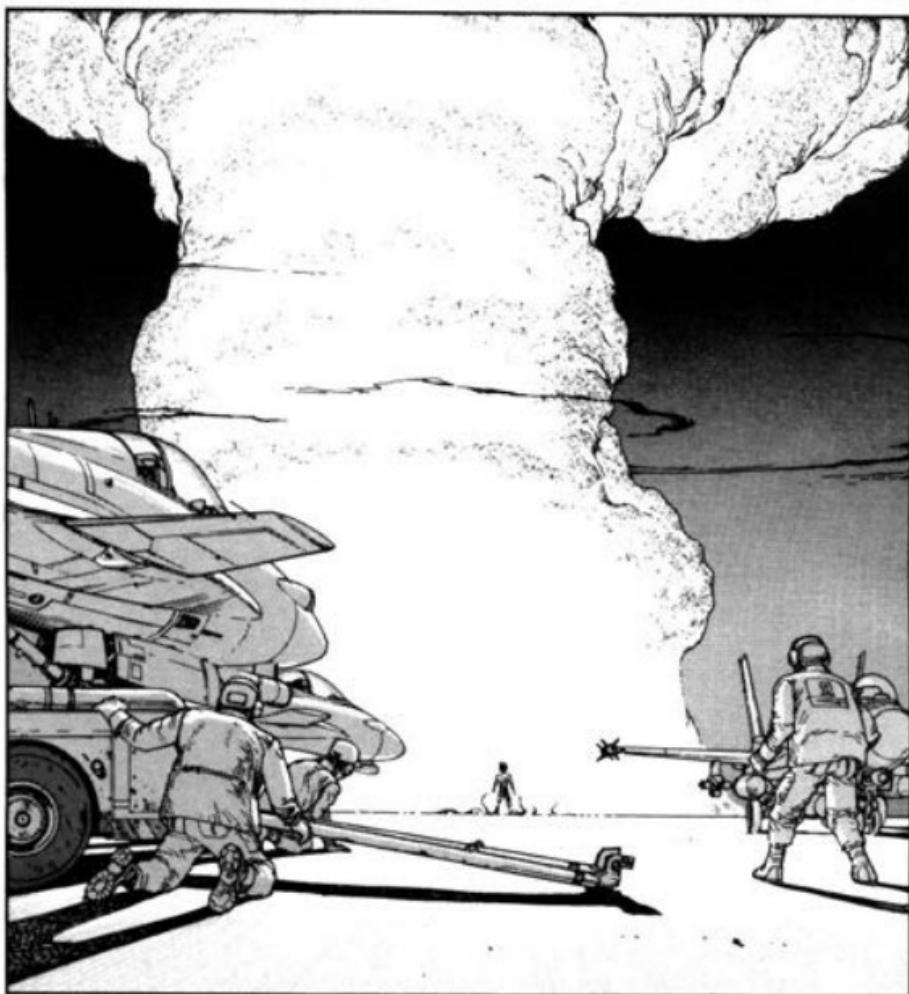


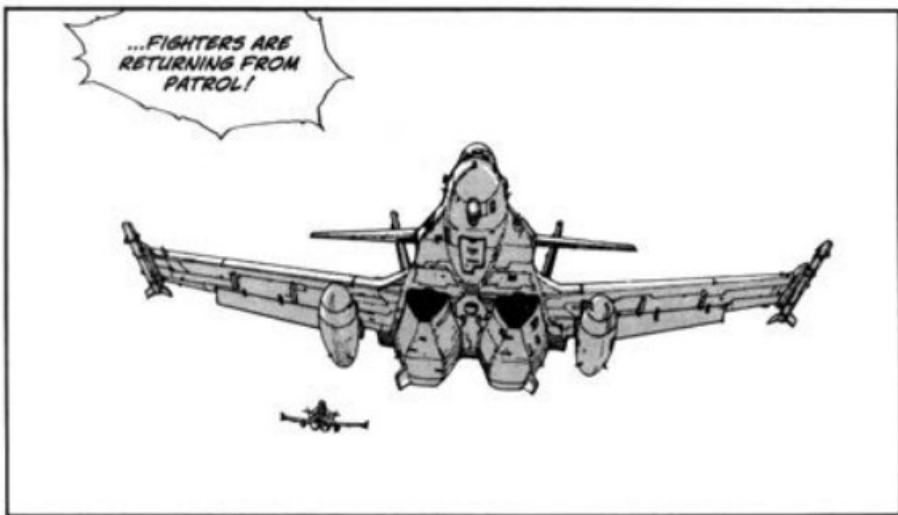


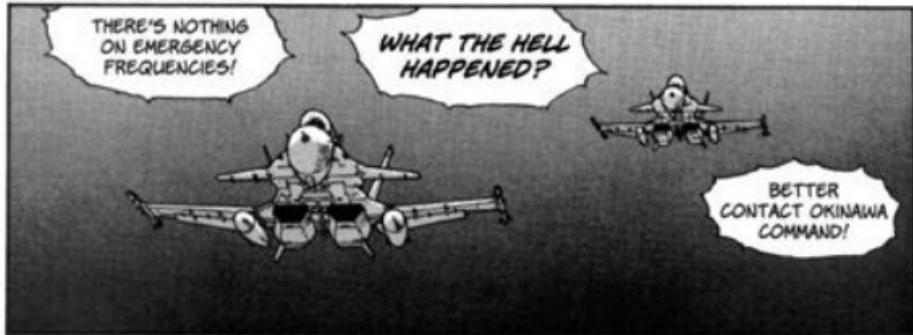
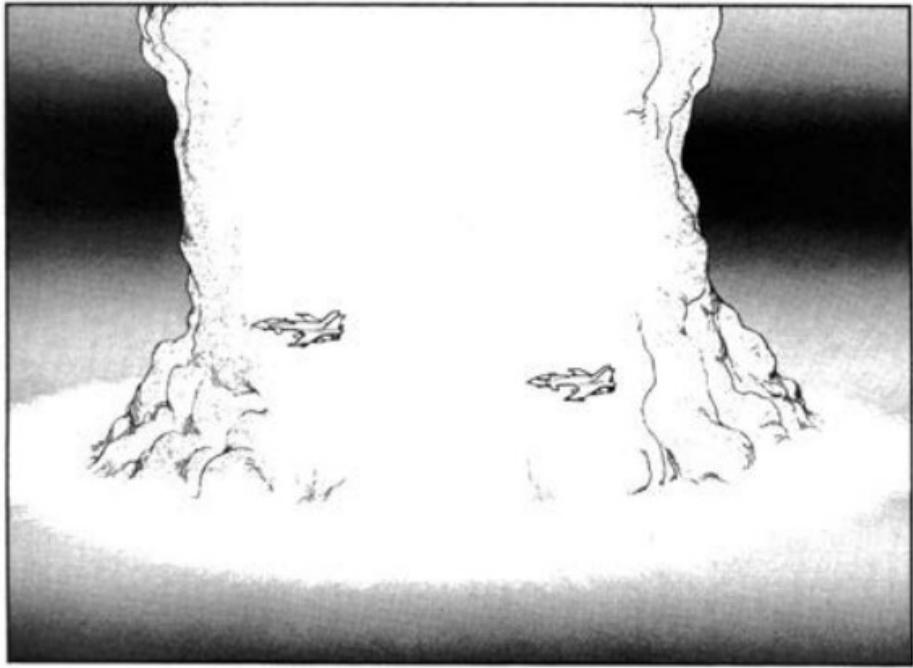


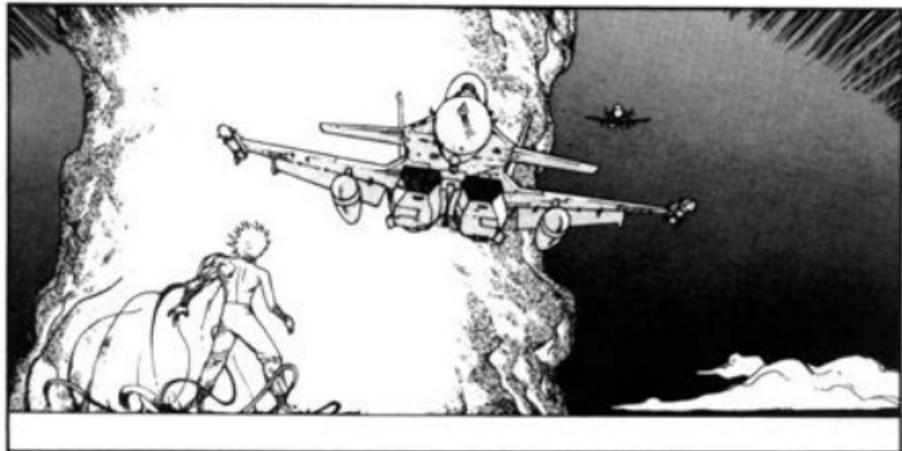


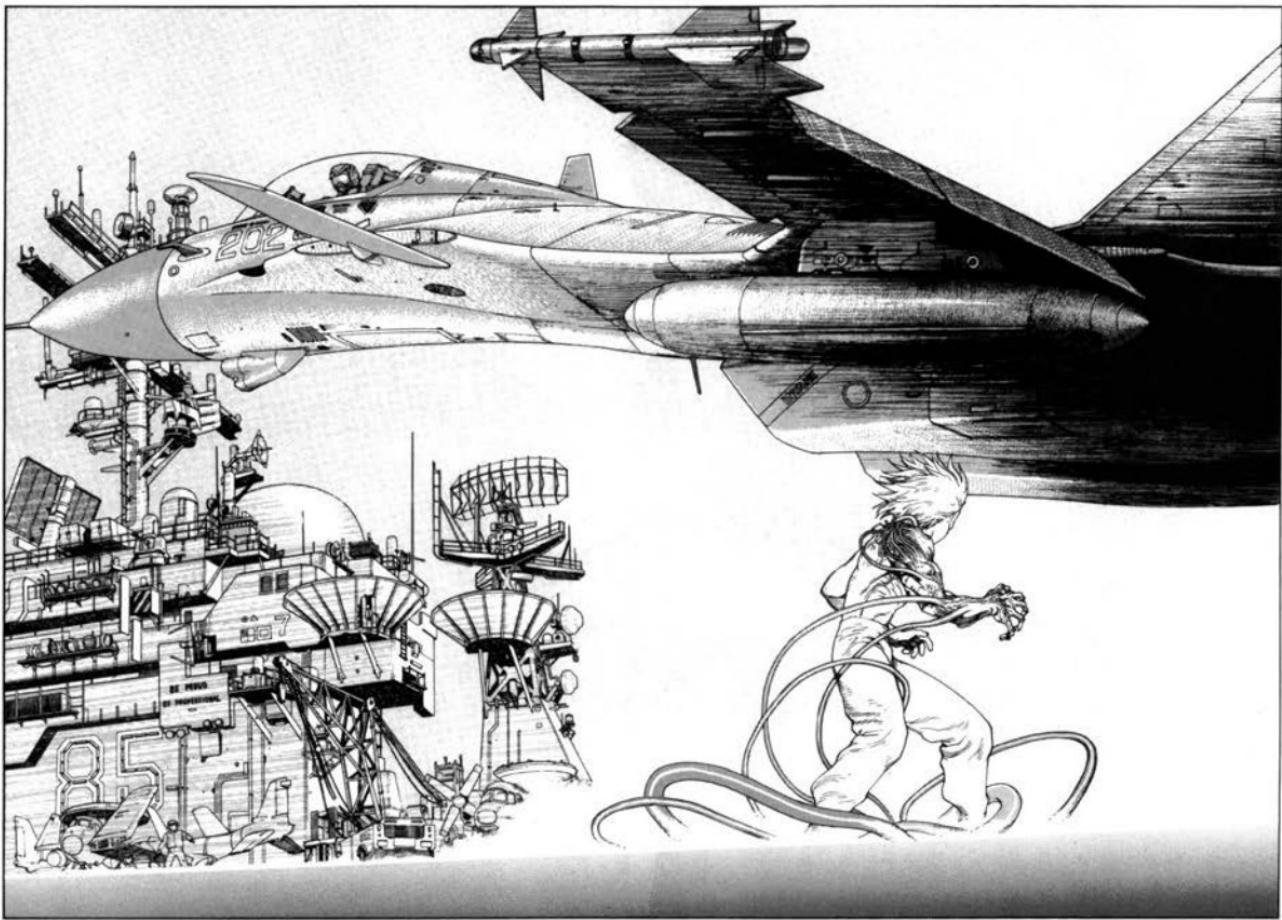


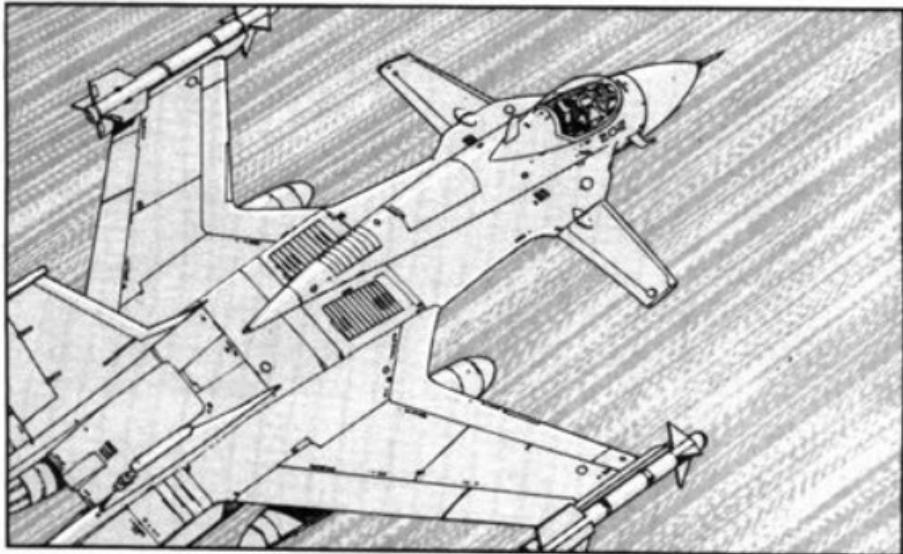




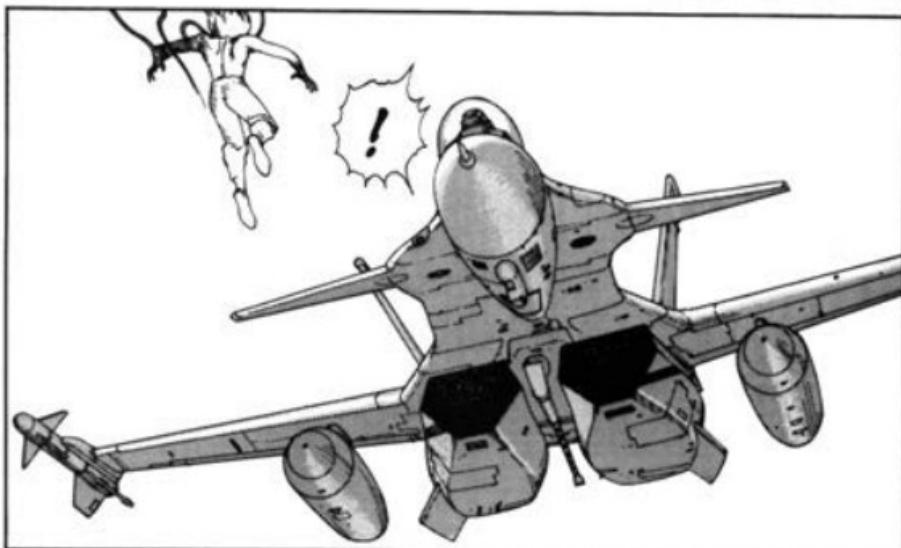
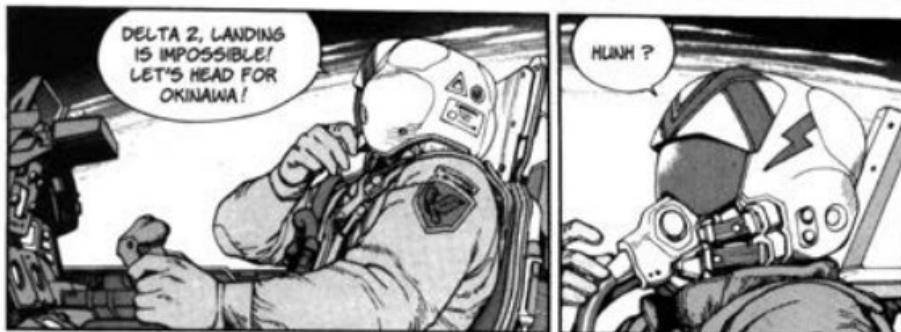
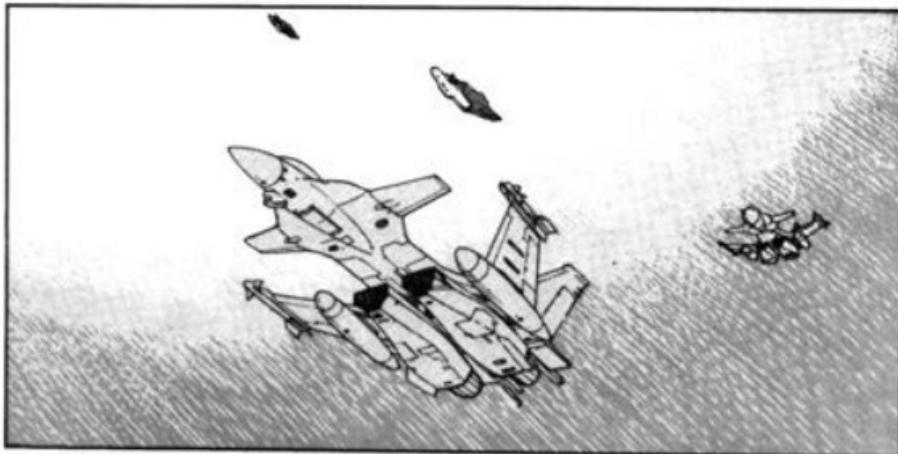


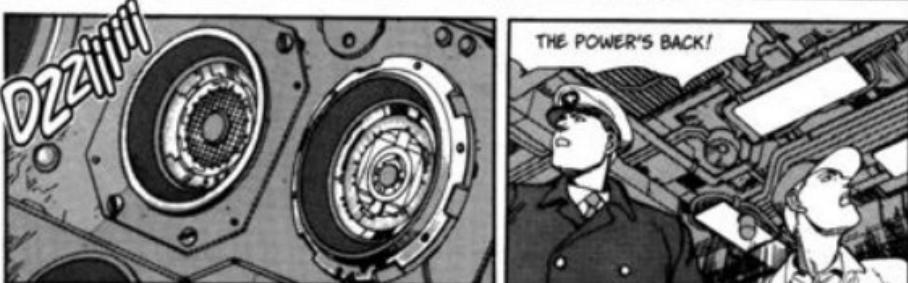


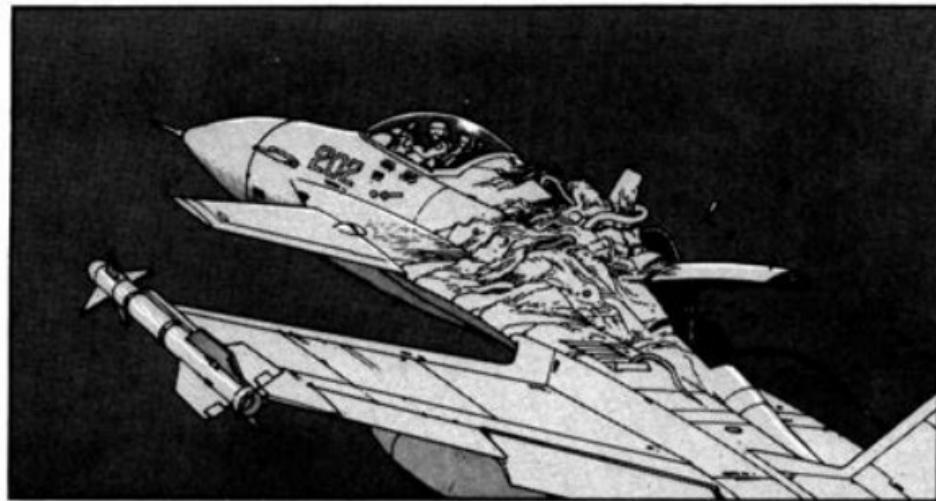






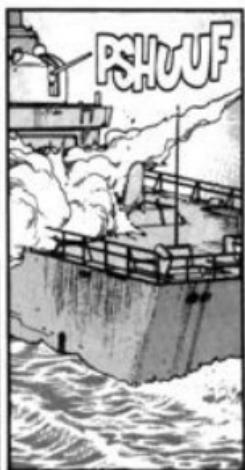


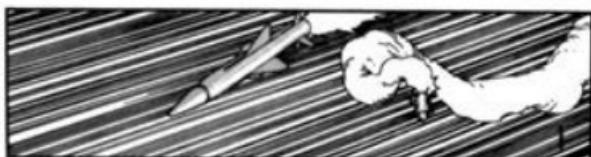


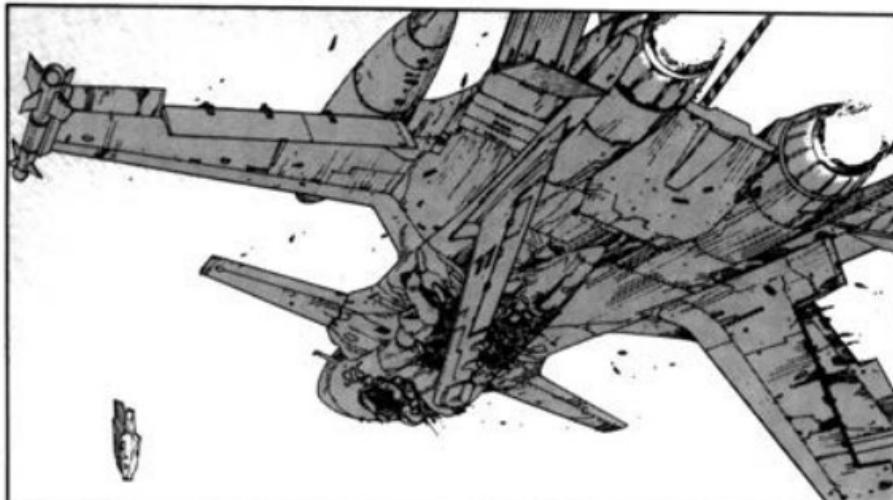








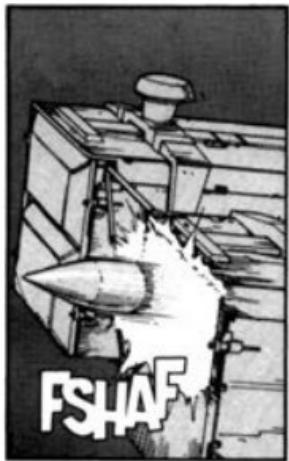


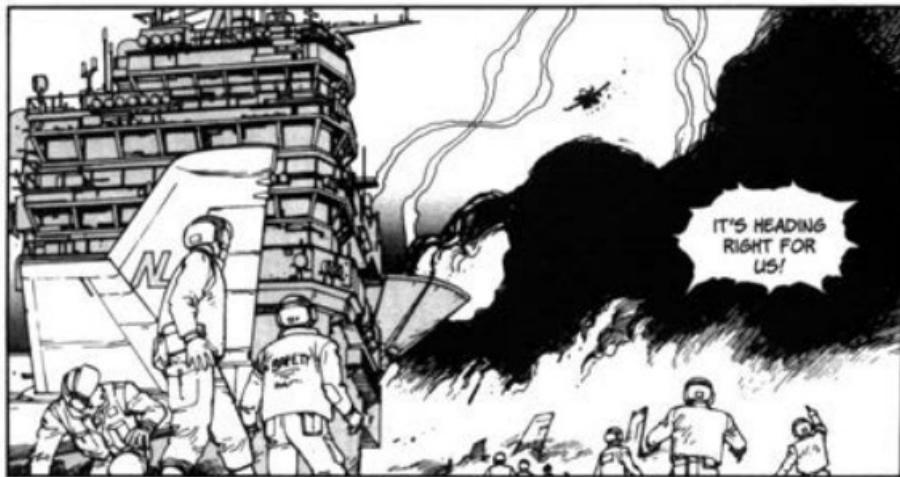
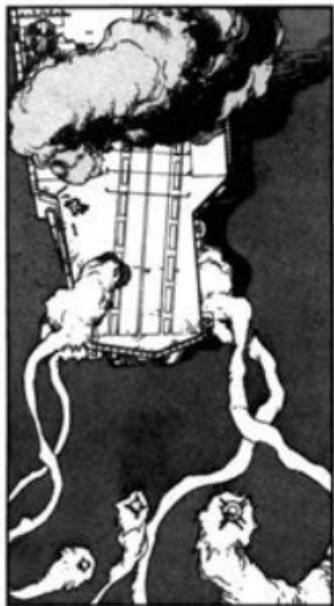








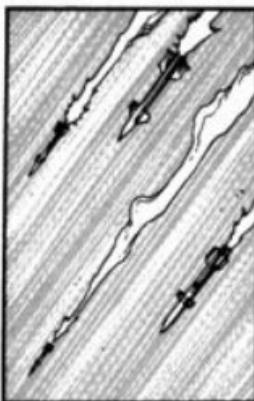




















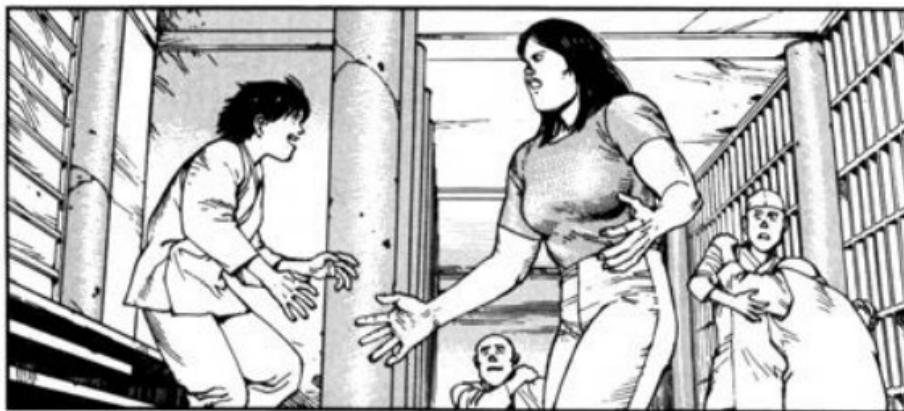




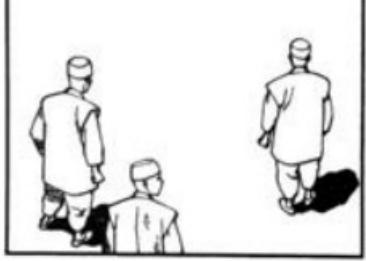










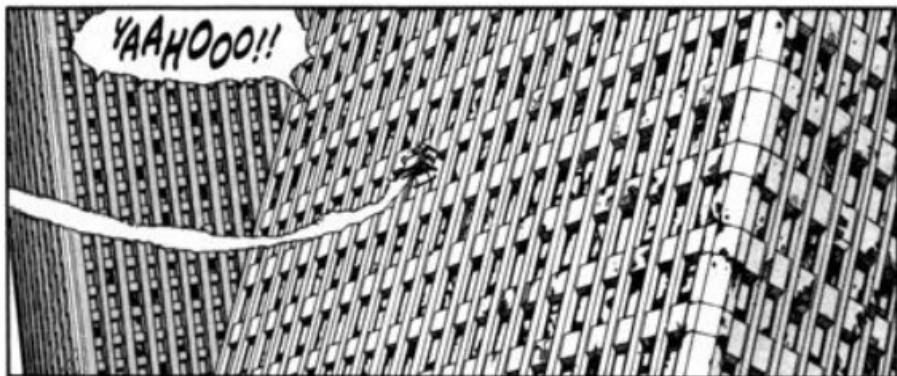


































IN THE 21ST CENTURY,

the once-glistening Neo-Tokyo lies in ruin, leveled in minutes by the infinite power of the child psychic, Akira. From the flooded wasteland of rubble and anarchy, the Great Tokyo Empire rises, populated by a ragtag army of zealots and crazies who worship and fear Akira and his mad prime minister, Tetsuo, an angry teen with immense powers of his own — and equally immense, twisted ambitions. The world at large is not taking the threat lying down, and the military strength of the planet is massing to take on the Empire, but will technology's most advanced weaponry be enough to destroy Akira? And are the rapidly growing paranormal abilities of Tetsuo a potentially greater threat?

A mind-blowing epic of over 2000 pages, *Akira* is a sweeping graphic-novel tour-de-force of awe-inspiring vision and gut-wrenching intensity and the inspiration for the brilliant *Akira* animated film. Creator Katsuhiro Otomo has influenced a generation of graphic novelists and animators and is universally acknowledged as a storyteller of extraordinary skill, standing alongside the finest writers and directors of science fiction.

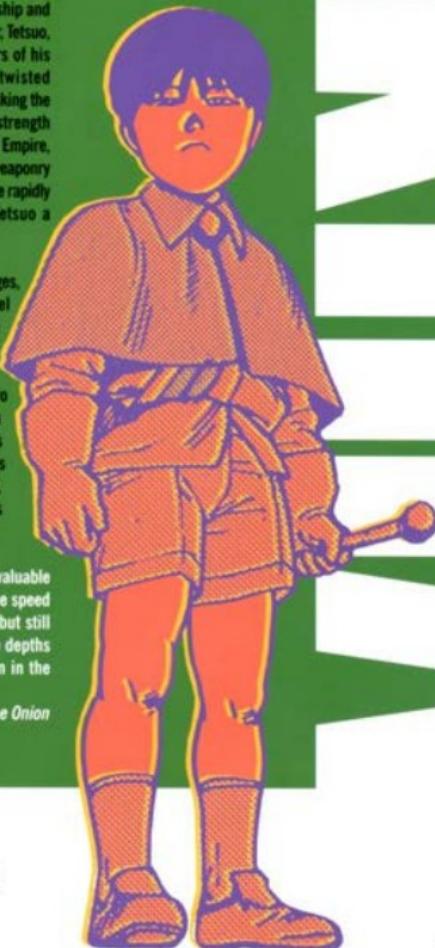
"...the Dark Horse editions are an invaluable gift to newer fans who appreciate the speed and clarity of the movie's images, but still haven't had a chance to plumb the depths of humanity and complexity hidden in the original work."

— Tasha Robinson, *The Onion*

ISBN 1-56971-527-0
52795>



9 781569 715277



吉子



AKIRA

5

KATSUHIRO
OTOMO



\$27.95 U.S., \$41.95 CANADA
www.darkhorse.com

